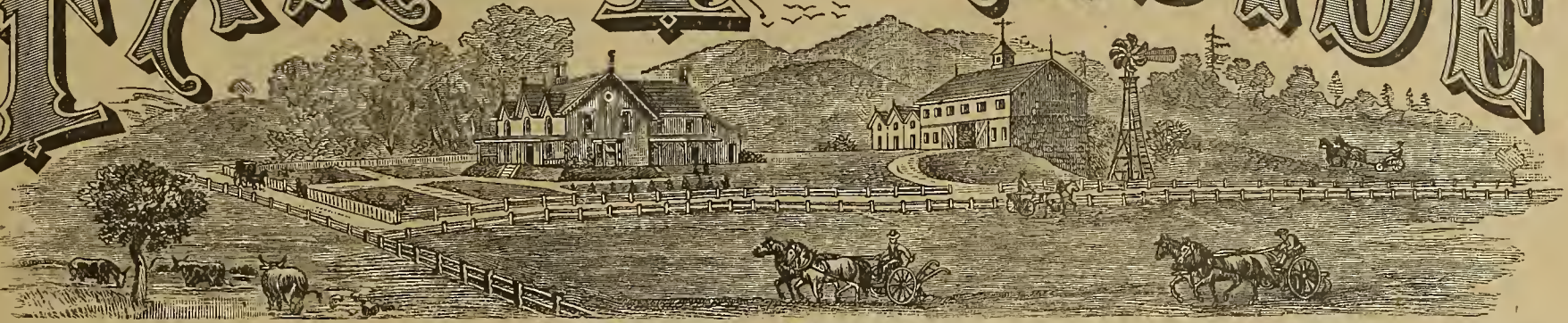


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FARM AND FIRESIDE



EASTERN EDITION.

Entered at the Post-Office at Springfield, Ohio, as second-class mail matter.

VOL. XVIII. NO. 13.

APRIL 1, 1895.

TERMS { 50 CENTS A YEAR.
24 NUMBERS.

INFORMATION FOR ADVERTISERS.

THIS ISSUE WILL BE

300,000 COPIES

Estimating at the usual average of
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AND FIRESIDE has

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Subscribers than any other
Agricultural Journal
in the World.

fully conceived to be its poetry produces wrecks and failures. It is, because the romantic novel tends to unfit you for this prose of life that I condemn it; and it is because the realistic novel opens your eyes to its beauty, its power and its deeper significance that I commend it."

MARY WOOD ALLEN, M.D., in *Good Health*, says some pertinent things which we will all do well to read and ponder over. Probably half of the misery of this world is due to the blunders made in rearing children. We all have been, or all must be at a certain period in our lives, little children; and this is always the formative period of our lives.

"The civilized man brings to his baby a whip; he doubtless could not say for what reason, but the lesson is one in cruelty. With this whip he is taught to strike the cat, the dog, his brothers, and even his parents. The person who is struck pretends to cry, and everyone else laughs, and so he is taught to take pleasure in the suffering of others; for he has no comprehension of the fact that the manifestations of pain are only a pretense.

"If no whip is at hand, he is perhaps taught to pound with his fists, to strike with open palm or to pull hair, stimulated to increase these demonstrations by the encouraging laughter of lookers-on. It is 'so cute' in the baby; but by and by, when in a fit of angry disobedience he strikes mama in the face, he is surprised to be struck by her in return, and no doubt wonders at her injustice, as well he may. In the spirit of retaliation, which is a spirit of cruelty, children are taught to strike the chair or door against which they have fallen, and to say, 'Naughty chair, to hurt baby!'

"The child does not distinguish, by its reason, between revenging himself upon an inanimate object and upon a person; so it is not surprising, when he is hurt by some one, accidentally or not, that he flies at the person in a fury, and puts into practice the lesson he received in regard to the chair. Cruelty to animals is often taught by the acts of older people. The father kicks the cat or dog, and when remonstrated with, replies angrily, 'Let it keep out of my way, then.' And the child imbibes the idea that dumb creatures have no rights which creatures who can swear and scold are bound to respect, and, instigated by the former lessons of taking pleasure in the sufferings of others, amuses himself by tying tin cans to the dog's tail or swinging the cat by hers. A refinement of cruelty is often taught children by the unkind remarks of older persons concerning those who are unfortunate in birth or surroundings.

"Ruskin says that there are only two faults that are of real consequence—idleness and cruelty. Are not the high-born in danger of being both idle and cruel?"

AFTER months of evasive and dilatory tactics in peace negotiations, the Emperor of China, forced by an uninterrupted series of victories by the Japanese armies and the threatened overthrow of his dynasty, has finally sent to Japan a commissioner clothed with full power to make a treaty of peace. That commissioner is Li Hung Chang. In the hour of his extremity, the Emperor of China re-

stored to full royal favor the statesman he degraded in rank after the first defeats of the Chinese armies, and sent him on a mission of the greatest importance to the empire—to secure peace on the best terms possible. By merit alone Li Hung Chang arose from an humble family through all the various stages of literary and official life to the position of prime minister. He is



LI HUNG CHANG.

acknowledged the greatest statesman of the Orient. "I have met on this journey," said General Grant, homeward bound on his tour around the world, "four great men—Bismarck, Beaconsfield, Gambetta and Li Hung Chang. I am not sure, all things considered, but that Li is the greatest of the four."

It is reported that Japan will demand of China the independence of Corea, the cession of the island of Formosa to Japan, the temporary occupation by Japanese garrisons of the great forts of Port Arthur and Wei Hai Wei, and a war indemnity of \$250,000,000. Large English and Russian fleets of war-vessels are now in eastern waters, ready for action, if England and Russia conclude to interfere in naming the terms of peace between Japan and China.

THE American Bimetallic is the name of a new political party formed by a few advocates of the free coinage of silver, at a conference recently held in Washington. The statement of the single issue on which the new party will organize is in part as follows:

"We declare ourselves to be unalterably opposed to the single gold standard, and demand the immediate return to the constitutional standard of gold and silver by the restoration, by this government independently of any foreign power, of the unrestricted coinage of both silver and gold into standard money, at the ratio of sixteen to one, and upon terms of exact equality, the silver coin to be a full legal tender equally with gold for all debts and dues, public and private.

"We hold that the power to control and regulate a paper currency is inseparable from the power to coin money; and hence, that all currency intended to circulate as money should be issued, and its volume controlled, by the government only, and should be legal tender.

"We are unalterably opposed to the issue by the United States of interest-bearing bonds in time of peace, and demand the payment of all coin obligations of the United States, as provided by existing laws, in either gold or silver coin, at the

option of the government, and not at the option of the creditor."

Present indications are that this so-called bimetallic party will attract to itself from other parties but few silver monometallists and no true bimetallics.

GENERAL BOOTH, the leader of the Salvation Army, who so recently made an extended tour throughout the United States and Canada, since his return to England has contributed an article to the *New York World*, giving his impressions of "Darkest America." The social conditions in this country are not essentially different from those of England. We are, he thinks, "gliding beautifully on an incline." As a people, we are fond of dreaming, and instead of going forward we are really going downward with a fearful speed. He fails to find among us, too, any very widespread desire to improve our condition.

"I have been disappointed in the American people; I expected to find them extremely wise politically. I do not think I ever saw so much humbug. There is so much clap-trap; so much appealing to prejudices; so little sound reasoning and calm decision in matters affecting public safety.

"They do not believe in grace; they do not want grace, and grace is no good for backing. They want the backing of the Republican party, of the Democratic party, or Mr. Cleveland, or somebody else. It is your ballot, of which you are so proud, that is to be your undoing, unless you wake up to what the situation is.

"The millionaire is on top now, and the great crowd is struggling beneath in misery. They see the millionaires having every comfort, while it is as much as they can do to make a living, and the poorhouse at the end when all is done. The next revolution will not be by force. It will be by your ballot-box, which the breechless multitude has just begun to learn how to use. One day they are going to turn things upside down. They are the many; the millionaires are the few. The millionaires will then be underneath, the breechless multitude on top.

"The plan for Darkest America," says General Booth, "would be to start little communities—little villages of thirty or forty houses together. Each man would have six or eight acres of the ground surrounding the village, and besides that, would have a common for his cow. There would be hovels for his pigs and chickens, and there would be carts come around so often to take the produce to the market.

"This little farming community would not find life away from the cities such a barren thing. They would have their proper recreations—the bands and the barracks, trips to the city; and while they would not get rich, they would make a fair living, and a sure one. The colonists simply would have the use of the land free as long as they choose to work it. Money to build their little cottages, their sheds and sties for cattle and pigs would be advanced to them out of their own wages, so that if a man ran away he would run away from his own money, and the scheme would be so much the richer by his going away."



I SHALL probably be charged with exaggeration," says Prof. Boyesen, in the *Forum* for February, "if I say that the recent aristocratic development in the United States, with its truly medieval inequality between the classes, is in no small measure due to this recrudescence of the feudal idea among us, which is again, in a measure, due to the romantic fiction that our youth of both sexes consume. It is the feudal sentiment of good Sir Walter Scott and his successors which makes our daughters despise the democracy which their fathers founded, and dream of baronial castles, parks and coronets and a marriage with a British peer as the goal of their ambitions. It is the same feudal sentiment which makes their mothers share and encourage their aspirations, and equip them, in Paris, with all the ethereal ammunition required for the English campaign. Half the novels they read glorify these things, and it would be a wonder if the perpetual glorification did not produce its effect. For the idea that literature of amusement is a neutral agency that affects you neither for good nor for ill is a pernicious fallacy.

"What you read, especially in youth, will enter into your mental substance, and will and must increase or impair your efficiency. Much you will outgrow, no doubt; but there always remains a deposit in the mind which you will never outgrow. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that that which you read should tend to put you in rapport with the present industrial age, in which, whether you like it or not, you have to live, rather than with a remote feudalism, whose ideals were essentially barbaric, and certainly cruder and less humane than ours. It is your comprehension of the problems in your own existence and in that of your unheroic neighbors—which the romancers contemptuously call the prose of life—which makes you a useful and influential citizen; while preoccupation with what is wrong

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

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Springfield, Ohio.

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We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Cattle For several weeks past prices for prime beeves have been advancing steadily without bringing heavy shipments to market, indicating that the supply of good grades of beef cattle is not large.

Sheep. Within three years—from January 1, 1892, to January 1, 1895—the value of sheep on American farms decreased almost \$49,500,000. The estimates made by the Department of Agriculture are as follows:

	1892	1895
Number.....	44,938,365.....	42,294,064
Value.....	\$116,121,270.....	\$66,685,767
Value, each.....	\$2.58.....	\$1.58

From January 1, 1894 to January 1, 1895, the decrease in value was forty cents a head—a total of \$22,500,000.

Crimson Clover. Last August the writer sowed a patch of crimson clover to test its hardiness in the latitude of central Ohio. Conditions during January and the first part of February made the test a severe one. A sudden freeze following a rain left the level surface soil of heavy clay frozen solid with a sheet of ice over it, which was soon covered by a few inches of snow. In the severe weather that followed the temperature fell to nearly twenty degrees below zero, and the ground was frozen deeply. But few of the plants appear to have been injured. Winter wheat could not have endured this test any better. In short, crimson clover seems to be almost as hardy as winter wheat.

The World's Wheat Crop. Beerbohm's London List of March 1st estimates the total wheat crop of the world for 1894 at 2,506,400,000 bushels, a larger quantity than ever credited to any previous year. Reviewing the increasing crops of recent years, it says: "Here we find full and sufficient cause for low prices; namely, excess of production. It may be assumed that, as in the four years from 1887 to 1890 inclusive, the average annual production was 2,232 million bushels, the average consumption of the world did not exceed 2,240 million bushels, and seeing that the ordinary consumption for human food increases at the rate of about eight million bushels per annum, it would follow that for the next four years, from 1891 to 1894 inclusive, the average annual consumption would be 2,304 million bushels, which it will be seen is far below the quantity grown, thus leaving a very large amount of surplus wheat to be used for cattle food and other purposes."

Broom

On account of droughts last season the crop of broom-corn was short and there was a sharp advance in prices. The high prices attracted attention to this crop, and many farmers are now planning to raise it for the first time. Unless these novices have soil well adapted to broom-corn, and make its management a subject of careful study, they will find it a losing venture. For a profitable crop the necessary soil is a warm, fertile loam or prairie, clean and free from weeds. Failure will almost certainly follow planting on heavy clay soils or land that is weedy. Again, experienced growers will be tempted by the high prices to enlarge their acreage, and if the season is favorable, will produce enough to supply the demand. This is not intended to discourage any one from efforts to diversify his farm crops, but only as a word of caution to those who are expecting to plant the crop for the first time.

How Much

Wheat?

A sharp advance in wheat prices followed the publication of the government estimate that the wheat in farmers' hands on March 1st was 75,000,000 bushels, an amount far below any similar estimate in previous years. On the other hand, a reliable trade journal, the Cincinnati Price Current, after a careful review of the situation, makes an estimate considerably larger. It says: "One hundred and fifteen million bushels is a reasonable quantity to recognize as farmers' stocks, which with 25,000,000 of other warehouse supplies, and 79,000,000 of regular visible, makes a total of 219,000,000 bushels for March 1st, of which about 40,000,000 should be counted as unmarketable or unavailable, leaving 179,000,000 for distribution the ensuing four months—of which it is calculated 124,000,000 will be needed for ordinary consumption and seeding, and 5,000,000 for feeding, leaving 50,000,000 available for exportation and surplus in excess of the unmarketable quantity."

Farm

Loans.

Insurance companies find that farm loans are a good investment. From the annual report of a large company we take the following:

"Of the total interest that fell due in 1894, amounting to \$2,953,969, only \$200,151 remained unpaid December 31st, and this amount, the greater part of which was not due until the latter part of the year, has since been largely reduced. The entire amount of interest due and unpaid December 31, 1894 (including the \$200,151), amounted to but \$253,058, or less than 5 (4.5) per cent of the interest (\$5,628,340) that fell due in 1893 and 1894. Even this small amount is in no danger of loss, however, as it is amply secured by the property mortgaged. The interest accrued but not yet due on mortgage loans amounted to \$784,325. The total real estate acquired under foreclosure and now owned after an experience of over thirty-six years, during which time more than \$115,000,000 were invested in mortgage loans, amounts to but \$431,228, an increase of only \$132,372 during the year. Included in the amount acquired by foreclosure in 1894 were but three farms, involving only \$9,781."

The Situation

in Florida.

From Putnam county, Mr. G. W. Hastings writes as follows: "The last few warm days have struck dismay into the hearts of even the most optimistic orange growers in Florida. A very general feeling among this class is that in four fifths or more of the orange groves the orange industry must begin at the roots, even of large bearing trees. Many are sawing off the trees at the ground, where they will insert the scions on sour stumps, or in case of sweet stumps, rear sweet seedlings. It is argued that from the sweet stumps of seedling trees a bearing grove can be made in three or four years, and that the groves so grown will be mines of wealth for many years to come."

"In the meantime, investigations are very active in seeking out the forage crops that will give the best results. The cow-pea, the sweet potato, cassava, the several millets, sorghum, certain varieties of corn and other plants, or varieties of these several forage plants, that are equal to northern red clover for forage and for soil renovation in the South, will have the attention of the southern farmer; and the kitchen garden will have a prominence that has never before been attained."

"The freeze of 1886 developed winter gardening and the strawberry industries, which have proved more profitable than orange growing or cotton raising. The freezes of 1894-5 will no doubt develop general farming and stock raising, by different methods. Cattle and hog raising by the old methods of running at large and making depredations on the gardens and groves of those engaged in fruit and vegetable growing have not proved profitable, because it has not encouraged the improvement of stock, and from want of food in such winters as the past, thousands of cattle have starved to death, and their bones are bleaching where death has overtaken them."

"There will come out of this calamity a new Florida—more general cultivation of the soil, less dependence on special crops, more kitchen gardens, the introduction of better stock, and the replacement of the razor-back hog with the Poland China, or some other breed that will pay to feed, the keeping of more chickens, and more living at home and less out of tin cans. The orange market will not be glutted for years to come, but Florida will again supply the country with the orange that in quality cannot be produced anywhere else."

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

Ground Rock

as Fertilizer.

The absurdity of an idea does not exclude the possibility of its finding advocates and adherents. In some cases it seems that the more absurd and counter to all good sense a proposition is, the more readily people will take to it. Just at present we find article after article in the agricultural papers discussing the question of using stone-meal, or finely ground rock, as a fertilizer. The whole discussion might be dismissed with a few words, as being "much ado about nothing." But in order to let my friends see clearly in this matter, I will just say that of course the only kind of plant-foods that we can expect to find in ground rock are the mineral ones. Nobody will be bold enough to claim that rock contains even a trace of nitrogen. This, the costliest of all plant-foods, then, is entirely absent. Phosphoric acid, as phosphate of lime, as well as potash, do exist in most rocks. No doubt about that. But they are so tightly locked up in chemical combinations with other minerals that it requires the slow natural decomposition of decades, or centuries, perhaps, to make them fit for the use of plant-roots. The mere mechanical separation of the particles by grinding will not do this.

Minerals in

the Soil.

Why should I apply ground rock, when I know that both soil and subsoil are already filled with disintegrated rock—rock, moreover, which has already been subject to that necessary slow chemical decomposition for centuries? The surface soil may have its stock of minerals in an available form so closely drawn upon and used up that we cannot put much reliance on it for a good crop any more, but the supply in the subsoil is usually yet abundant. And there is nothing to hinder us from drawing upon this hidden wealth.

Clover

the Key.

The most of our ordinary farm crops are surface feedings. Such crops may suffer from lack of food, while the subsoil below them is plentifully provided. To utilize this food, we need deep-feeding plants, and among them none can be more useful to us in this direction than the clovers. The quality of the clover-plant to forage in the subsoil and bring the mineral plant-foods up to the surface, is just what makes the clover crop so valuable to us, and gives us the explanation why we can improve a worn-out farm by its chief agency. Mr. Terry tells us that his farm, which was poor and unproductive when he took hold of it many years ago, is now so rich that Mr. Mapes, the famous fertilizer man, on the former's request to ship just such fertilizer as would be likely to give best results on that particular farm, replied that it would be folly to apply any commercial manure, the soil being already fully supplied with everything needful. Mr. Terry has tried various fertilizers, however, yet failed to see the least benefit from their use, simply because the land is rich enough already. In the meantime, Mr. Terry has raised large crops of wheat, potatoes, and

of course clover, year after year. The farm, in short, may be considered as good as new. Now, all this improvement has been achieved without the purchase of fertilizers in any form. The only manure that has been used was that made on the farm, and all this manure has been made from hay, straw and perhaps grain grown on the place, no feed stuffs of any kind having ever been purchased. On the whole, it is a remarkable record. But what Mr. Terry has done, and the only thing he has done, to achieve this remarkable result (and what anybody else can do under similar conditions), is to set a lot of clover-plants to work to draw nitrogen from the inexhaustible supply of the atmosphere, and to gather potash and phosphoric acid from the disintegrated rocks in the subsoil, and thus to store all these plant-foods in the surface soil. In short, Mr. Terry has found a way how to bring to the surface soil, and accumulate the fertility underlying and surrounding his farm, from depths or forms where out of the reach of ordinary farm money crops. The task accomplished was simply a local transfer of fertility. The proceeding is eminently a sensible one. It is simple, safe, inexpensive. Its only price is skillful management. It is just as sensible as the idea of carting ground rock to the fields in order to supply them with the stolen fertility is not.

Seed-potato

Agents.

I can have some patience with, and a good deal of charity for, the tree agents. Even if they have to tell some outrageous stories, and make their victims pay outrageous prices, I feel that they have a mission on earth, and for this mission perhaps the recording angel may forget to put all their big lies down against them on his record of misdeeds. Their victims, besides, do not deserve a better fate. All sympathy would simply be wasted on them. Of the two classes of people, I think the victims are the worse. They would let their farms be without fruit-trees, their premises without vines or shrubs, and their families without wholesome berries, grapes and tree fruits. The agent comes along and makes the desert blossom as the rose. It would be impossible for him to accomplish this without telling the biggest kind of lies, or asking four times the amount for his goods that they are worth. The lies are lies of absolute necessity, and at any rate the good that may result from them in the end may justify the means.

But I hate the swindling seed-potato agents. They are absolutely without a redeeming feature. Their case is one without mitigating circumstance, and for what they make innocent farmers suffer here, they should be properly punished, either in this world or in the world to come. It is now about the time that these sharks go about plying their nefarious trade. They go to the farmer whom they know to do without a good farm paper, and consequently ignorant of the latest improvements in potato varieties. They find no difficulty in getting him to listen attentively to their tales of the wonderful yields and the other great qualities of a new potato of which they will graciously furnish seed, as an accommodation more than anything else, but at a good price. In one vicinity last year a stranger did a thriving business, selling to farmers a great many bushels of the "Columbian" potato, under all sorts of claims, at \$1.25 per bushel. The great new potato which this fellow furnished proved to be a very late sort (it did not even ripen up fully), and too poor generally to use (except for stock) or to sell. The victimized farmers not only paid a price for their seed which should have secured them a really good variety of latest introduction, but they also suffered considerable loss in consequence of reduced yield and reduced prices. They were anxious to grow as good potatoes as there are, but they took the wrong course to get their seed. Ten to one, too, when the next swindler comes along with some wonderful new potato, they will be ready again to take the bait, hook and all. Better spend fifty cents or a dollar for a good agricultural paper, and keep informed about what is going on in potatoes, as well as in all other things. And above all, be a trifle slow to trust a stranger, especially if he comes to sell you a new variety of potatoes at two or three times current market rates for good table potatoes.

T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

BOSSING THE WEATHER.

A NUMBER of years ago a prominent farm writer excited comment by the declaration that a farmer should "boss" the weather on his own farm. The idea was that the man was given dominion by the Creator, and the power only needed to be exercised. There was a strong note of exaggeration running through it all, and yet like most exaggerated statements it contained some truth. Of course, the gentleman did not mean that he could control the amount of rainfall, but he could plan his work so that excessive rainfall did small damage, and droughts would be equally impotent. Since making the statement, he seems to have found both flood and drought very harmful at times on his well-tilled farm, just as others of us do, but there is something in the idea that the ill effects of excessive and deficient rainfall may be mitigated by intelligent management.

Drought in midsummer has become nearly a certainty, and we do well to prepare for it as far as possible. In ordinary soils, both sandy and clayey, one efficient means of combatting drought is the filling of the soil with decayed vegetation. It enables the soil to hold moisture during the season. Most soils are greatly deficient in humus, and the amount of it is annually reduced by a poor system of farming. We have given much attention to fertilizing, taking into account the actual mineral plant-food given the land, but the stock of vegetable matter in the soil is fully as important as the amount of available nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. In fact, if the former be present, the latter can usually be gotten by disintegration of the soil as a direct result of the presence of fermenting material in the soil.

But we call attention only to the mechanical influence of decayed vegetation in soils. It increases the water content of the land by aiding the soil to hold a greater amount of water in suspension. In order to fight drought with some success we plow under clover, rye, peas, etc., but must bear in mind that these aid us in this respect only when well decayed and incorporated with the soil. A heavy growth of rye, for instance, plowed under in May or June for corn, is an injury if the season be very droughty. It cuts off the supply of capillary water from beneath, and also makes the top soil too porous. On the other hand, well-rotted rye, thoroughly mixed with the soil, helps to keep it moist.

It is a well-determined fact that under-drainage aids land in resisting drought. Some seem to think such a claim unreasonable, but it is not. An excess of water in the soil is always harmful. The water which assists plants to grow is that held in suspension by the particles of soil. If land lacks drainage, either natural or artificial, the excess of water causes the particles of soil to compact, filling the spaces that should be occupied in part by a film of water around each particle of soil. When drought comes, and the excess of water escapes, the soil is left so compact that little moisture rises from the subsoil, and the air needed by plants cannot enter freely. Drainage, allowing no excess of water to accumulate in a wet season, keeps the soil in better mechanical condition, so that the amount of moisture it can hold in suspension, like a sponge, is materially increased. Good drainage and plenty of decayed organic matter are aids in combatting drought.

The early plowing of sod land is an important factor in fighting drought. Too little attention has been given to this point. I am aware that in the case of some crops late plowing seems best, and is doubtless so in good growing seasons. Corn feeds best on decaying vegetation, and if a sod with a heavy green growth be turned late in spring, the fermenting grass affords just the proper condition for rapid germination and growth of corn. But if the one aim be to ward off the ill effects of drought, earlier plowing would be advisable, as then the organic matter in the soil would be more nearly decayed; and if thoroughly mixed with the soil, would increase its power to hold moisture for

use during the drought. I am not arguing for the early breaking of the sod for corn, but stating the fact that such early breaking is an aid in resisting drought. If the season be moist, the late plowing might be better.

So much has been written of the value of thorough preparation of a seed-bed that one hesitates to say more, but this is one chief means of preparing to withstand dry weather. The thorough work before planting directly affects the power of the soil to provide moisture for the plant. 1. It makes the greatest possible distribution of the organic matter through the soil. This is important. 2. It destroys the big air spaces in the top soil that rob the plants of water. 3. It puts the top soil in perfect condition to pump up the water from the subsoil. 4. It promotes greater growth of the plant roots, so that they have a better chance to find water in the soil. We understand that there are other reasons for a good seed-bed, but I mention only those directly bearing on the question of drought. If drought is expected, and we set out to combat it, we first remove surplus water, then fill the soil with organic matter, then have the organic matter well decomposed, and make as nearly perfect a seed-bed as possible.

PEACH ORCHARD AND SMALL FRUITS COMBINED.

ONE THIRD ACRE—120 by 120 feet.

P., peach; O. Q., orange quince; D. P., dwarf pear; Ch., cherry; Pl., plum.
36 peach (24 by 24), 5 orange quince, 15 dwarf pear, 5 May cherry, 5 plum (Damson), 600 strawberry, 80 red currants, 40 gooseberry, 120 red raspberry, 120 black raspberry, 80 blackberry.

S					N				
P	Q	P	Q	P	Q	P	Q	P	Q
600 Strawberry									
600 Strawberry									
600 Strawberry									
600 Strawberry									
600 Strawberry									
P	DP	P	DP	P	DP	P	DP	P	DP
40 Red currants									
40 Red currants									
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40 Blackberry									
P	Pl	P	Pl	P	Pl	P	Pl	P	Pl

Every stirring of the ground permits the escape of moisture. Cultivation can be classed only as a necessary evil. If crusts did not form and promote the rapid evaporation of water, and if weeds did not grow and pump its water out of the soil, cultivation would do more harm than good. We cultivate to keep a mulch on the surface of the ground, and to prevent weeds from growing. If a soil have a sufficient supply of organic matter in it to keep it loose, any cultivation for other reasons than the two just given would be worse than useless. Consequently, having a field prepared as well as possible, we fight drought by giving only level and shallow tillage.

I am aware that those farming land that needs underdrainage can see no virtue in level cultivation, and for them level cultivation would not be best; and with soil greatly deficient in humus, some deep tillage early in the season seems to be necessary. But when land is well drained, and has a heavy sod turned over for every plowed crop, level and shallow culture are possible, and greatly aid in keeping the moisture in the earth from escaping. Root-pruning is a severe operation on plants, and the escape of moisture resulting from the deep plowing is often sufficient to cut yields from ten to thirty per cent. We cannot "boss" the weather;

light yields come to most men in droughty years, but it is possible to mitigate the effects of drought in some degree by doing all we can to increase the amount of moisture our soils will hold in suspension, and by preserving it with surface and level culture of the crop. DAVID.

PEACH ORCHARD AND SMALL FRUITS COMBINED.

Where one desires to combine the culture of the peach, the dwarf pear, orange quince or other trees of comparatively slow growth, with the small or bush fruits, it can be done on trial on as small a piece of land as about one third of an acre. The trees and plants can be set as follows: Set 36 peach-trees 24 feet apart each way. Between these, in the rows from north to south, there may be set 5 orange quince, 15 dwarf pear, 5 May cherry and 5 plum trees. Between the first and second rows of peach-trees there may be set 600 strawberry-plants, in rows 4 feet apart, and 1 foot apart in the row. Between the second and third and third and fourth and fourth and fifth rows of peach-trees make the rows for the 40 gooseberry-plants, the 80 currant, the 120 red raspberry, and 120 black ones, 6 feet apart, and set the plants 3 feet apart in the rows. Between the fifth and sixth rows of trees make the rows 8 feet apart, and set the blackberry-plants

are needed, stable manure will be found to answer every purpose. Where close planting is desired, two and one half feet apart for rows is ample distance, hoed out to one stalk in a place, eight inches apart in drill.

Cultivation is about the same as for corn. It takes less work for sorghum than for any other hoed crop on the farm. Mississippi. G. H. TURNER.

PICKED POINTERS.

Below is a table from an English work, which should interest every farmer in the land. It gives in pounds the fertilizers in a ton of dung and a ton of urine of our principal domestic animals.

A ton of fresh dung:

	NITROGEN.	PH. ACID.	POTASH.
Horses	8.8	7.0	7.0
Cattle	5.8	3.4	2.0
Sheep	11.0	6.2	3.0
Swine	12.0	8.2	5.2
Comb. am'ts in dung	37.6		17.2

A ton of fresh urine:

	NITROGEN.	PH. ACID.	POTASH.
Horses	31.0	not given	30.0
Cattle	11.6	"	9.8
Sheep	39.0	.2	45.2
Swine	8.6	1.4	16.6
Comb. am'ts in urine	90.2		101.6

Thus it will be seen there is over twice as much nitrogen, and about six times as much potash in a ton of urine as there is in a ton of dung. This pointer ought to be sufficient to induce everyone to save and utilize the urine. What proportion do it? To know why sheep manure is more valuable than the others, it is only necessary to compare the items of the table.

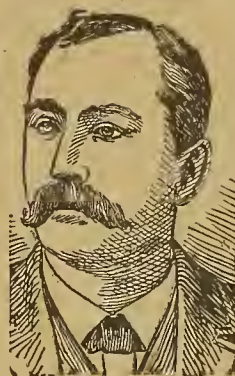
A near neighbor is in the poultry business for egg production alone. He keeps three or four hundred hens. He finds a cross of Plymouth Rock cockerels upon Leghorn hens makes the best fowls for his purpose. This cross is generally marked with the color, weight of body and eggs of the former, and have the laying qualities of the latter. As an experiment, he kept one hundred a straight year in a hen-house containing seven hundred and twenty-eight square feet of floor surface, and a yard adjoining which is five rods square. They did not go out of this inclosure during the year. The morning feed was a warm mash (in winter) of wheat-bran and middlings and a trifle of corn-meal. This feed (dry) was kept before the fowls all day. In the afternoon whole grain of various kinds was thrown in the straw to make them work for it. They had water and cracked clam-shells—nothing else, no meat, succulent feed or condiments. He kept strict account. The hundred netted him \$136. DR. GALEN WILSON.

Impure Blood

Scrofula Breaks Out in Running Sores

The Poison Perfectly Cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"A year ago a sore came on one of my limbs. It spread, and soon four others, which proved to be as bad as the first, broke out. I could not



account for them and my physician did not seem to do me any good. The eruptions would spread to the size of a half dollar, and the flesh would become ulcerated nearly to the bone. I finally decided to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, and after taking several bottles of the medicine I am glad to say that my limb is now perfectly well, and I am in better

health than I have been for some time. Soon after the sores appeared I was compelled to take my bed, but thanks to Hood's Sarsaparilla I am now enjoying good health. I consider Hood's Sarsaparilla a good medicine to keep in the family for general use. I gladly send you this testimonial, as I would like every sufferer to know the value of Hood's Sarsaparilla in a case like mine." C. D. COVINGTON, Farmerville, Louisiana.

"Last November I was seized with the grip and for some time lay around with a severe cough. I was unable to follow my occupation, that of locomotive engineer. I was prevailed upon to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, and since taking the medicine, I have gained in weight and I also

Feel Splendid.

Out of one-half dozen bottles, I have taken four, and it has benefited me greatly. I can highly recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla. Several of my neighbors are now taking the medicine and speak favorably of it." J. C. McCABE, Chama, N. M.



Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the Only True Blood Purifier

Hood's Pills are hand-made, and perfect in proportion and appearance. 25c. per box.

Our Farm.

CHATS WITH INQUIRERS.

GROWING SEA-KALE.—A Minnesota reader asks me why so valuable a vegetable as sea-kale is not more commonly known and grown in this country. I think there is a good reason for it. In the first place, I do not believe that our climate agrees with it as that of its native country—Old England—does. If it does, I do not know why I thus far have been unable to make it thrive in my garden. I had good plants and thought I took good care of them; but they never made a very thrifty growth, and finally they died without having given me a single mess even for testing the flavor. I have an idea, however, that in this respect it resembles cauliflower. One very potent reason why the American people will not take kindly to sea-kale, be it ever so good, and even if it would succeed here, is the length of time required to give a crop. When we have to wait for the sea-kale several seasons—about as long as for asparagus after setting the plants—and have to go to a great deal more trouble to secure it, we will rather put our reliance in asparagus. But do not tell me that sea-kale (*Crambe maritima*) is not mentioned in the seed catalogues. I am sure there are quite a number of our leading seedsmen who offer plants of this vegetable for sale. From the tone of the Minnesota reader's letter, however, it might be inferred that he grows sea-kale successfully. If so, I and many of the FARM AND FIRESIDE family would gladly learn how the vegetable does with him, and how he handles it.

POTATO VARIETIES.—A Texas reader wants me to name the variety of Irish potatoes, and of onions, that will give him the best yields on his rich, black upland with well-drained clay subsoil. How unsafe it is to recommend varieties of potatoes and of other vegetables and fruits promiscuously, is best shown by the instance of the Freeman potato. One man, in my hearing in Rochester, recently, pronounced it the best potato he ever grew, while another denounced it as a humbug. The truth is that the Freeman may be very satisfactory in yield (it is always so in quality and form) under skilful treatment, while it must be a sore disappointment in the hands of people who grow the low-average crops of even our best-yielding sorts. It will never do to rely on variety alone to give us good crops of potatoes. We must know how to handle them. This, of course, includes planting the variety that is best suited to climate, soil and the particular methods of the individual grower. The latter's duty is to find out by trial—perhaps by inquiry at his nearest successful neighbor's—which that most suitable variety is. At the South, Bliss' Triumph (or Stay Beauty, a round potato of peculiar terracotta color) is largely grown for an early sort. Here, on rich, black upland, I would plant the old Early Ohio for an early sort, in preference to anything I know of, and the Freeman for a midseason potato, at least for home use and a discriminating market. The Early Rose and Beauty of Hebron may be worth the trial on my Texas friend's soil. We like the White Star about as well as any other late sort for general purposes. If we desired quantity above everything else, we would plant Rural New-Yorker No. 2; but this is too coarse to suit me. The new, and as yet very high-priced Carman No. 1 seems to be also an immense yielder, and its quality is very good. These remarks will also answer the questions of Mrs. M. R. W., Virginia.

As to the best variety of onions, I grow the Prizetaker, and no other. Probably it will be found, also, just the variety that will do best for the inquirer. He should try it, by all means.

GROWING SWEET POTATO PLANTS.—When one has nice, sound seed potatoes on hand, about April 1st, there is no great difficulty in raising plants. The difficulty with the inexperienced is usually in the keeping of the seed. Of course, you want a good, warm hotbed. When it is all going nicely, put a layer of sand—say two or three inches deep—upon the warm manure, and then upon this a layer of the potatoes pretty closely together, but so that they will not touch; then cover them with more sand, and put on the sashes. Do not use any water. Keep the bed dry until the sprouts appear above ground and grow rapidly, when water applications will be

in order. When the slips are of the right size, say three inches high, they are ready for pulling and setting out. By the time they are that, it will probably be June, and just time for setting the plants. Be sure, all who take an interest in sweet potatoes, to try the "Vineless." There can be no more doubt that it is a good thing, and the "coming" sweet potato. These remarks will answer the inquiries of C. E. C., Washington county, Kansas.

HEATING HOTBEDS.—Our Illinois reader, A. M. S., is not the only one ever having trouble with his hotbed manure. Even under the management of the more experienced the manure frequently refuses to come to a heat. If we take it out of a steaming pile and throw it together in the hotbed pit, it often never warms up again, and tender seeds sown in such a hotbed may remain dormant until warmer weather calls them into life. To make sure of a lively heat in the manure, we want fresh horse manure from well-fed and hard-worked animals. The litter in it is all right if not excessive in quantity, and if what there is is soaked with the liquid voidings of the horses. A portion of dry leaves, used as bedding in the stables, may be added to the manure, and will improve the lasting qualities of the heating material. It should not be over one third in bulk of the whole, however. If all this material is well shaken up so that it is loose, and then piled up in a big heap, it will soon come to a heat, and it is then ready to be shaken, in even layers, into the hotbed. The drier it is, the tighter packing it will need. If rather moist, the mere patting down with the back of a fork or shovel will be all that is necessary, while rather dry stuff can be tramped in with the feet. Should the manure refuse to heat up in spite of all efforts, the addition of a quantity of bran (dry wheat or rye bran) will seldom fail to bring it to terms. Spent hops fresh from the brewery make a good substitute for horse manure, where this is wanted merely for giving bottom heat. I usually mix it with manure, about half and half.

EARLY MELONS.—A Michigan reader wants to raise some melons for a near market. He is well satisfied that a gain of a week or ten days in the maturity of the crop would make a great difference in the value of the crop. The question is what variety to select for this purpose and how to push it in the most effective way. I do not know of another variety that can compare in earliness with the Emerald Gem. Nor is there any other that is of better quality. The customer who buys them once will buy them again in preference to any other. But the melon is very small. On the other hand, it makes up in numbers what it lacks in size, especially as it can be planted much more closely than ordinary melons. Four feet each way is sufficient space for the hills. To forward the crop as much as possible, start plants on inverted sods or in strawberry-boxes under glass, sowing the seed about the last week in April, so that the plants may be set out in open ground when danger from frost is over. I always set the berry-boxes right with the plants; they soon decay in the ground, and they do not interfere with the growth of the roots, anyway. Then I put a pint or more of tobacco-dust and bone-meal, mixed in equal parts, all around the plants of each hill, and thus not only keep the bugs away, but also give the plants a good start; for these materials are good fertilizers. It need hardly be said that the ground should be rich and well manured. Put on all the good compost that you can plow under. The crop will surely pay for it.

T. GREINER.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

STARTING A CHESTNUT GROVE.

The quickest way, undoubtedly, to start a chestnut grove of improved varieties, especially of the Paragon, is to graft scions on young trees of natural growth. A piece of chestnut timber will give us a good foundation. If the trees are cut down, plenty of sprouts will spring up, and these may be grafted and afterward thinned to proper distances. Mr. Engle, of Pennsylvania, has such a grove now in bearing. J. S. Woodward, in *Rural New-Yorker*, gives an interesting account of his experience in this line: "Last year," he says, "I grafted a lot more, and among others I cut off quite large trees and grafted them the same as I would the

apple. On others I inserted scions in the side of the trunks, and these have made a good growth. If the scions are cut in proper season and kept perfectly dormant, it does not make much difference when the grafting is done. Of course, the scions cannot be inserted on the side of the trunk until the bark will start easily, as in this style of grafting the scion is cut slanting from one side to a point, and inserted under the bark similar to a bud in budding, but having the end sticking out a couple of buds. A successful method of grafting is to cut off a limb or the main trunk, about an inch or so in diameter, and insert scions cut the same shape as those last mentioned, under the bark, waxing the whole end of the stub. Two or more scions may be inserted in a stub, but one is plenty to let grow. In using this method, the bark must be loose. But don't shove the scion down so far that a little of the cut surface does not extend above the end of the stub, for if you do, no union can take place above the cut surface, and a bad job is the result. In all systems of grafting the chestnut, I have found it to pay to use waxed cloth, and firmly bind the limb until growth takes place to such an extent that the band is liable to strangle the young growth. I notice that a good deal is said about the chestnut not making a good union of stock and scion. I have closely examined mine, and while occasionally one does not seem to be perfectly joined, the majority have made a good union, and on a good many it would puzzle one to find the place of grafting. I have had a few break with the wind, but in no case has it been at the collar. Next spring I intend to cut off and top-work a good many trees which I have, that are from four to six inches in diameter of trunks."

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Alfalfa in Orchards.—J. E. B., Nebraska. Alfalfa improves the land on which it grows in the same manner as clover. It needs lots of water, and consequently is hard on trees. Then when once a good stand is secured, it should be allowed to remain for a number of years. I would not use it in an orchard.

Young Pear-trees Dying.—A. S., Blackwell, O. T. I cannot understand the trouble with your pear-trees from your description, unless they were growing rapidly in the autumn when cold weather set in and did not ripen up. This is a common cause of loss under such circumstances, and is especially bad in rich soil and where cultivation is continued late into the autumn.

Apple and Pear Tree Blight.—A. C. C., Sycamore, Miss. It is one of the forms of fire-blight, and little success has ever been attained in preventing the same. Some varieties are more susceptible to it than others, and trees growing in warm, sheltered places are more liable to it than those in locations where there is a free circulation of air. The only treatment that can be reasonably recommended is to cut off the diseased parts.

Blackberries.—O. L. F., Walnut Grove, O. The Snyder is an excellent berry for general marketing. The objection to it is that after being kept some time it turns a light color. I think you had better also try Ancient Briton. Both are very hardy. They should be set out four feet apart in rows seven feet apart. For home use those mentioned are good. I also like the Agawam. The El Dorado is a new blackberry of considerable promise, and is worth trying in a small way.

Sawdust Mulch.—W. T. S., Sandwich, Ill. Sawdust is a very good mulch, but should not be mixed with the soil, and hence the objection to using it for a mulch around trees and shrubs. Currants can be grown very well by mulching with sawdust without other cultivation, providing it is not mixed with soil. Hard-wood sawdust is richer in plant-food and not so liable to cause trouble in the soil as that from resinous woods like pine. For the reasons above noted sawdust should not be used as a mulch for strawberries.

Squash-bugs—Renewing the Blackberry-patch.—C. B., Leavenworth, Kansas. The beetles that destroy squash and pumpkin vines are the yellow-striped bug, which appears early in the season, and the stinking squash-bug. Dusting the leaves with plaster containing about one per cent of Paris green is a good remedy, but early in the season great care should be taken to get the mixture on the stems near the ground.—Take up the strong, thrifty suckers in the old bed early in spring, and set two in a place at four-foot intervals in rows seven feet apart; that is, providing the old variety is what you want. Plant on light, rich soil.

Plums and Quinces in Poultry-yard.—A. K., Knoxville, Tenn., writes: "1. What is the best variety of plums to plant in poultry-yards, if sprayed or unsprayed? 2. Is it any advantage to quinces to be planted in poultry-yards?"

REPLY.—1. It does not matter about the variety of plums for this, as any good kind will do, and one be benefited as much as another. You might try Lombard and Abundance. 2. In a general way it is a good plan to have poultry run among all kinds of fruit-trees, as they pick up many insects. Quinces would not be especially benefited by poultry, as their serious injuries result from fungous diseases rather than from insect pests.

Peach Fruit-buds.—L. H. F., Lynchburg, Va. The peach, like all plants that bloom early in the spring, forms its fruit-buds in the latter part of summer and in autumn. They can readily be distinguished by a little examination. Where three buds are found at a place the two outer are fruit-buds and the middle one a leaf-bud. If you take a couple of needles and carefully pull each bud apart you will see the difference, as one is all small layers of leaves, and the other contains the organs of the flowers. If you put a few twigs in water in the house, and watch them grow, you will see the difference in the buds, which come out nicely under such conditions. To determine if the buds are alive, cut across them with a sharp knife; if the centers of them are fresh they are all right, if black or dark-colored they are dead. I do not believe the peach-buds are dead over the entire country, nor that they are generally killed. Some kinds will stand a much lower temperature than others without being injured.

Osage Orange Seed.—C. F. S., Nicolaus, California. The seed of osage oranges may be removed by cutting open the fruit, putting the pulp and seeds into a barrel to ferment a few days until the seeds will separate from the pulp, then wash against a sieve with water, so that the pulp will go through and the seed remain on the sieve.

Red Cedar Seedlings.—A. S. R., St. Florian, Ala. Red cedar seeds will remain dormant in the ground for a number of years, unless the resinous cover is taken off of them first. This is done in nature by their passing through the stomachs of birds. In practice the berries should be gathered in the fall or spring, soaked for about twenty-four hours in strong lye, then rubbed against a screen or in sand until the covering comes off, and then sowed in light soil in beds that are partially shaded. The shade should not shut off the circulation of air or the seedlings will "damp off" in moist, warm weather. A very good shade is made by covering a framework put at least six feet from the ground with enough boughs to keep off about one half the sunlight. Some of the seed will generally come the first year, but most of it will not grow until the second year.

Renewing Cranberry-beds.—J. C. W., South Sudbury, Mass., writes: "I have two large cranberry-beds in the center of a pond meadow. The vines are long and tangled, not having been mowed off for at least twenty-five years. They used to produce a fair crop every year, and sometimes a heavy crop. Of late years they produce little, if anything. What can I do to restore fruitfulness? Would mowing off the vines (say one half at a time) be any benefit? The meadow used to be overflooded in fall and spring more than the past two or three years, but still it is quite moist."

REPLY.—It is doubtful if mowing off the vines of your cranberry-bed would make it as productive as in previous years, though it might help. I rather think the lack of fruit is due to the attack of some insect, such, for instance, as fruit-worm or weevil. You should watch the vines closely early in the season, and in July, when the blossoms expand, to note what insects are present and send samples to this office, or better, to your state entomologist, Prof. Fernald, Amherst, Mass. You had better also advise with other cranberry growers in your vicinity, especially those who have regular crops, and see if they do not use some remedies for insect pests. I think you will find they do.

Locust and Box-elder Seedlings.—E. G. S., Marysville, Idaho, writes: "1. How should locust-seed, both honey and black locust, be handled to insure the best results in planting? 2. How and when should they be planted? 3. Will box-elder seed gathered in the fall and kept in a cool, dry place until the first of April retain their vitality? 4. How long would they retain their vitality, kept under the above conditions?"

REPLY.—1. If black locust-seed is packed in autumn and sown at once before getting very hard, or kept over winter in moist sand, it is pretty certain to grow well in spring. It is, however, more certain, especially in the case of very hard seed, to scald it with water at least once before planting. Allow the water to stand over the seeds about twenty-four hours. They should not be boiled. The treatment for the seed of honey-locust is about the same as for black locust, though it is more uncertain unless scalded, and if hard, they should be scalded several times until they show signs of starting. They may also be kept in hot water on a stove for an hour or so to advantage, but not boiled. It is customary to pick or screen out those that swell up after each scalding. 2. The seed should be sown at once after soaking in rich, fine soil in rows three feet apart, covering two inches deep. They are apt to be injured when growing, and it is best to take up the seedlings and heel in in autumn of first year. Early spring is a good time to plant the seeds of these plants. 3. Yes; but I prefer to mix them with a little sand in autumn. 4. I do not know, but probably not more than two years, and I should regard them as doubtful the second year.



WOMEN'S FACES

—like flowers, fade and wither with time; the bloom of the rose is only known to the healthy woman's cheeks. The nervous strain caused by the ailments and pains peculiar to the sex, and the labor and worry of rearing a family, can often

be traced by the lines in the woman's face. Dull eyes, the hollow or wrinkled face and those "feelings of weakness" have their rise in the derangements and irregularities peculiar to women. The functional derangements, painful disorders, and chronic weaknesses of women, can be cured with Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. For the young girl just entering womanhood, for the mother and those about to become mothers, and later in "the change of life," the "Prescription" is just what they need; it aids nature in preparing the system for the change. It's a medicine prescribed for thirty years, in the diseases of women, by Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, at Buffalo, N. Y. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription will cure the chronic inflammation of the lining membranes which cause such exhausting drains upon the system. It cures nervous prostration, sleeplessness, faintness, nervous debility and all disorders arising from derangement of the female organs and functions.

Mrs. JENNIE WILLIAMS, of Mohawk, Lane Co., Oregon, writes: "I was sick for over three years with blind dizzy spells, palpitation of the heart, pain in the back and head, and at times would have such a weak tired feeling when I first got up in the morning, and at times nervous chills.

The physicians differed as to what my disease was, but none of them did me any good. As soon as I commenced taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, I began to get better; could sleep well nights, and that bad, nervous feeling and the pain in my back soon left me. I can walk several miles without getting tired. I took in all three bottles of 'Prescription' and two of 'Discovery.'"



MRS. WILLIAMS.

EXTRACTS
FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM VIRGINIA.—This Piedmont section is healthful and the lands very productive. Grain of all kinds does well. Lands are well watered, and there is good timber. Grasses grow well, making this one of the best stock-raising sections in the South. The thermometer was as low as zero a few days during the past winter, being the coldest winter here since 1856-57. My cattle have had but little shelter, and look well, being fed on straw and fodder. My sheep have only an open, straw shelter, and lambs dropped on the coldest days are doing well. One of the most comforting things I have experienced in this neighborhood is the freedom from rogues. My meat-house is often left open at night, corn-house rarely ever locked; in fact, I very seldom own a lock and key. We have good, sociable neighbors, though not very near, as some of the farms are still large. The owners of these are the ones who are anxious to sell some of their surplus lands; not wishing to leave here themselves, by any means, but want to farm on a smaller scale. The best land can be bought for from \$10 to \$25 per acre, according to improvements and location. I cannot think those who want a good home in a healthful climate, good grain and stock raising section, where fruit of all kinds, both wild and cultivated, grow to perfection, could do better than settle among us. Farms of any size can be bought cheap. The Chesapeake and Ohio and the Southern railroads run through our section. Somerset is in Orange county, on the Southern railroad, ninety-six miles from Washington, eighty miles from Richmond and twenty miles from Charlottesville, where the University of Virginia is located. There is a cheese-factory located at Somerset, owned by the farmers, and a great deal of attention is paid to dairying. They are not making cheese at present, finding it more profitable to ship the milk and cream to Washington and elsewhere. Wheat is selling for 50 cents per bushel; corn, 40 to 43 cents; oats, 40 cents; eggs, 20 to 25 cents a dozen; pork, 5 to 6 cents a pound; turkeys, 10 cents a pound, live, and chickens, 8 cents. A great deal of money is made here raising turkeys and chickens. We raise fine crops of winter oats, weighing from 40 to 42 pounds to the bushel. A farmers' club has been organized in this neighborhood, which meets once a month at some member's home for the discussion of farm matters. It has a buying committee, which buys anything in large quantities for the club when needed. The social part of this club meeting is very pleasant. I know of no better place for home-seekers, with large or small means, to locate and live happily than in Orange county. I am a Pennsylvanian by birth; have lived here for the last twenty-two years, and know this country and people.

Somerset, Va.

W. J. W.

FROM INDIANA.—BUSINESS OUTLOOK FOR 1895.—Indianapolis is located at the exact geographical center of the state. It is the largest capital and commercial inland city in the Union. It is bounded on the north and west by White river, which affords the city a complete and thorough sewerage system. The building foundation is gravel and sand. It has a magnificent water system, and one of the most complete rapid-transit street-railway systems in the United States; in fact, its electric street-railway is over one hundred miles in length, and it is the longest line of railway operated entirely by electricity in the world. Its streets are paved with asphalt and brick, and its thousands of homes are warmed by natural gas. Its public and business buildings compare favorably with those of like character in other large cities. As a residence city it stands without a peer. It has 175 churches within its corporate limits. Its school system is free, and it has also many private educational institutions. Its great network of railroads radiating out into ninety-one of the ninety-two counties in the state, makes it possible for citizens of the entire state to visit Indianapolis and return home the same day. Its great union railway station, with 130 passenger-trains arriving and departing every twenty-four hours, its belt railroad and union stock-yards, its cheap fuel, and the hum and roar of its 900 manufacturing establishments, crown Indianapolis the queen of all the inland manufacturing cities in the Union. With its enormous manufacturing and wholesale trade, the general business of the city did not suffer in the panic of 1893 to any very great extent. It is true, a few of the smaller manufacturing establishments were obliged for the time being to curtail their output and discharge many of their workmen, and during the winter of 1894 much suffering would have been experienced by the forced idle mechanics had it not been for an organized system of relief, set on foot and carried out by the Commercial Club. It was not charity; work was furnished the workman, and he was paid full value received in the necessities of life for himself and family. During the past six months, all branches of business in Indianapolis have nearly reached a normal condition, and only for the uncertain and unsettled financial situation of the general government, our business in all departments would be far above normal. Money is plentiful and cheap. Our wholesale dry-goods and grocery trade is up to a full average business. Our manufacturers are working full-handed and full time,

but the profit is small. Collections, however, throughout the state are good; this proves that the farmers of Indiana are prosperous and meeting their indebtedness promptly. Indiana is in the first rank as a wheat and corn producing state. Taking into consideration the low price that has ruled during the past year for wheat, it would seem at the first glance as if the farmers of Indiana were upon the losing side of the deal; but such is not the fact. During 1894, corn, hogs and cattle were in demand, and brought a price much above the general average of years past for such products; consequently, the Indiana farmer is able to meet the loss upon his wheat and start the business of 1895 with a fair cash balance to his credit. The agricultural outlook in Indiana for 1895 is most flattering. The increased wheat acreage is about fifteen per cent over that of 1891, 1892 and 1893, making the total acreage of 1895, 3,300,000 acres. The growing crop went into winter quarters in good shape. The rainfall in December was heavy and the weather moderate; consequently, the wheat is deep and strong-rooted, and the top growth heavy and healthy. It is safe to estimate that the crop of 1895 will yield per acre fully as much as the crop of 1891, which was twenty bushels, making the total yield in 1895, 66,000,000 bushels. This is a reasonable estimate of the growing crop, and can be relied upon. The corn crop in Indiana was a short one last year. This shortage in the crop, taken in connection with the high price that has ruled for corn during the entire year, has emptied every crib, warehouse and elevator in the state, and farmers are already preparing for a large increase in acreage the coming spring over that of former years. The average corn acreage in Indiana for several years past has been 3,500,000 acres, and the average total yield 126,000,000 bushels. The acreage in 1895 will reach a total of 4,000,000 acres. The number of hogs in Indiana is estimated at 3,000,000 for 1895, and valued at \$18,000,000. The number of cattle is placed at 1,250,000, valued at \$22,000,000. Milk cows are not included in this estimate of the salable cattle in the state. From the sale of wheat, corn, hogs and cattle alone, the farmers of Indiana will realize nearly \$100,000,000 in 1895; add to this amount the value of the sheep, cows, oats, barley, hay, tobacco and potatoes which the farms of Indiana will produce in 1895, the grand total of the agricultural products of the Hoosier state will reach the enormous sum of \$150,000,000. Farming is the bed-rock of all of our business and commercial prosperity.

Indianapolis, Ind.

FROM TEXAS.—Three years ago, the writer came here from northern Alabama, and that year was the driest in fifteen years, rain falling in one month only—May. Having farmed up North in years gone by, I determined to try northern methods on Texas soil, although all old planters around me cautioned me not to do it, saying it would not do here, that I would make nothing, and that all had tried it and made a failure; some of them had been farming forty years. I replied that if intelligent labor would not pay here, it was no country for me. I prepared the ground, planted my crop and cultivated it in my own way. I averaged thirty bushels per acre of good corn; they averaged ten bushels of nobins and shorts, and deny that my methods are any better than theirs. In a nutshell, I can take a common Texas cow—buy her from one of the old settlers—giving one half gallon of thin milk at the time of purchase, and by the same attention I gave Texas land, I can bring her to five gallons of milk per day; then sell her back to her former owner, and in thirty days she will be back to one half gallon per day. It takes too much time milking five gallons, so they say. Everything here is carried on the same as the cow business. Let northern men come here with their energy and methods, and this will be the best country on earth. I have tried every state in the South, and I see best advantages here. This country could be made a paradise, if in the hands of a progressive race. Unlike the old southern states, this part of Texas has not been worn out. I can buy land here for the same price I saw northern men paying in Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia, and would not give one acre here for ten acres there. This country has been overlooked, and now is the time for northern men to come here and reap the great advantages.

Hayes, Tex.

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.—Oxford is the county-seat of Granville county, and has a population of 3,000. Granville is a county far famed for growing a fine grade of tobacco, which can be successfully cultivated only on lands peculiarly adapted to its growth. In this respect it is a jealous plant. When, however, the soil has the special elements of fertility suited to its growth, and the farmer prepares it properly for market, he realizes, as compared with the price of other grades of tobacco, almost fabulous prices—from \$40 to \$50 and sometimes \$60 per hundred pounds for the best qualities. The yield is about 500 pounds per acre, and sometimes 600 or 700 pounds. The cost of marketing is \$8 to \$12 per hundred pounds. One hand can cultivate about three acres, in conjunction with corn, wheat, oats, etc. Thus it will be seen that the pecuniary result is sometimes enormous to the farmers who make the peculiarly fine tobacco that a portion of the soil of Granville county will grow to a high state of perfection. It would be misleading to say that our

farmers average for their entire crop such high prices as are indicated above, as on the same land and under the same manner of cultivation, uniformity of quality will be lacking. The prices given above are therefore only obtained for a part of the crop, though the average price is usually from \$20 to \$30 per hundred pounds for a good crop all around. This is highly remunerative, as our climate and soil are so propitious that it is easy to make other crops and our homesupplies, including vegetables and fruits, in abundance. We can make two crops of Irish potatoes a year, and can generally perform outdoor work on the farm during nearly every month of the year, except in rare instances when the winter chances to be exceptionally severe. For healthfulness and good water this locality is unsurpassed. Northern gentlemen who come down in winter to hunt quail, which are very abundant, commend our climate and hospitality in the highest terms. A party of these northern sportsmen have bought land in this county, and are delighted with their purchase. Good land in this county, particularly suited for dark and mahogany tobacco, can be bought for from \$6 to \$10 per acre. Lands peculiarly adapted to bright tobacco sell for from \$12 to \$30 per acre. On both kinds of land all other crops do admirably well under fair cultivation. We want good settlers to help us build up this section.

Oxford, N. C.

FROM SOUTH DAKOTA.—Bon Homme county is a smooth prairie country. The soil is black loam, from two to four feet deep, with clay subsoil. Corn, cattle and hogs are the principal products, though we raise good wheat, oats and other grains, vegetables and fruits. Artesian wells can be had at a depth of from 100 to 700 feet; common wells, fifteen to forty feet. I have lived here eleven years, and am well satisfied. Land can be bought here on easy terms at from \$10 to \$25 per acre, according to improvements, quality, etc.; this land will produce as well as land in the East that is worth from \$50 to \$75. A few years will double the value of this land; the fast-increasing population must have homes. We have good society, church and school privileges.

Scotland, S. D.

FROM MISSOURI.—We are situated in the rich bottoms of the Missouri river. The land produces forty to eighty bushels of corn per acre. We are near the big markets, Kansas City and St. Louis. Many are coming into our country from Nebraska and Kansas. We are sending car-loads of provisions to the destitute of the West. There are good schools and many churches here. Land is worth from \$20 to \$60 an acre.

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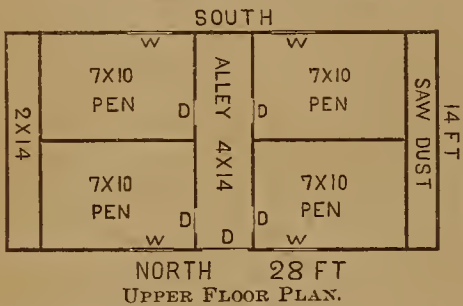
Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

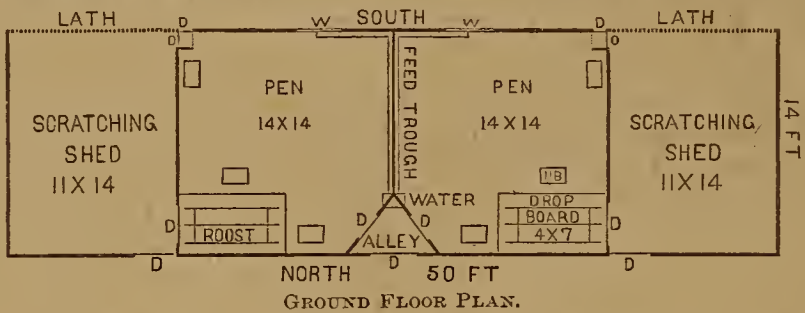
Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

A MODEL HEN-HOUSE.

This building, designed by Mr. C. E. Scroggs, Ohio, is 50 feet long, 14 feet wide, the roof running the long way, the object being to get as much room on the ground as possible, and not lose space, as every inch is used. In the ground plan there is shown a scratching-shed at each end, a solid partition dividing each shed and pen. A drop-board under the roosts enables one to clean out the droppings easily from a door opening into the shed. In the upper story plan (which is only above the pens) are two bins for sawdust directly over the drop-board, making it convenient to sprinkle the floor with sawdust after cleaning. The roosts are round poles, two and a half inches in diameter, bolted to a cross-piece, and hung from the ceiling by half-



inch rods. The entrance for fowls is partitioned off and covered, keeping out all drafts, the door being hung on the inside; and when turned around it closes up the opening, allowing either shed or pen to open to the outside. A sliding door closes the opening between the pen and shed. The front of the scratching-sheds are made of lath. The walls are lined inside with felt, the nest-boxes being portable, and as



many as one desires. The feed-troughs may be along the center partition, on both sides, and extending along the walls if necessary. The water-pans are on a raised platform in the alleyway. Doors lead to each pen from the alley. The upper floor is intended for sitting hens or surplus cockerels, making a good place for sitting hens not wanted for incubation. The pens are lathed and plastered inside, boarded with hemlock, and battened outside. The roof is shingled, having felt between the shingles and sheeting. The house is intended to contain fifty hens, in two lots.

FEEDING BY QUANTITY.

The amount to feed a flock depends upon the condition of the hens, and whether they are producing eggs or are unprofitable. Regarding the feeding of a certain quantity of food per day, we stated in a former issue that "a quart of mixed ground grain, moistened, and in a crumbly condition, should be sufficient for the morning, but that two quarts of whole grain should be scattered in the litter." One of our subscribers asks if we consider three quarts of

whether hungry or not, the practice leading up to the habit of running up for more food whenever they see an opportunity to get it. The fact is that such hens are the very ones that should not have a grain of food unless they worked for it.

We will state, also, that the quantity to feed a flock is estimated to be one quart of grain (or its equivalent) for twelve hens

per day. If the hens are fat, they should have only one half that quantity, so as to reduce them in flesh. More persons feed too much than underfeed, and in a majority of cases, when the hens are healthy and do not lay, it is because they are too fat. Make them scratch and work. Feed but half a meal in the morning, so as to have them somewhat hungry, and then they will scratch. When a hen is a good and lively scratcher, she will also prove a good layer. The way to get eggs is not by keeping food always where they can get it, but by compelling them to work.

FATTENING BROILERS.

Broilers are usually sold when they weigh a pound and a half each. As they convert food into growth, it is seldom that they can be made very fat. The fattening process should not begin until they are about one pound in weight, when they should be fed four times a day. The first meal should be bran and potatoes, cooked,

the second of moistened bran and meal, equal parts, fed crumbly. The third should be a mixture of equal parts corn-meal and ground oats, with a quarter of a pound of ground meal to each pound of grain, to which should be added a quarter of a pound of crude tallow, scalded, well mixed, fed cold and somewhat dry. The fourth meal should be wheat and cracked corn. A mess of finely chopped clover may be given with the third meal, and twice a week a little linseed-meal may be added. Keep grit, pure water and a dust bath before them, and feed all they will eat at a meal, but do not leave any food over to become stale, as it may not be beneficial.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Leghorn Male.—J. W. W., Marietta, Ohio, writes: "Is a Leghorn male hatched in July old enough for this season?"

REPLY:—Yes; the Leghorn matures early, and is a precocious fowl.

Clay Poultry-houses.—W. T. B., Oskaloosa, Iowa, writes: "Could not poultry-houses be made of clay, the same as is used for gravel-houses, and would they be suitable?"

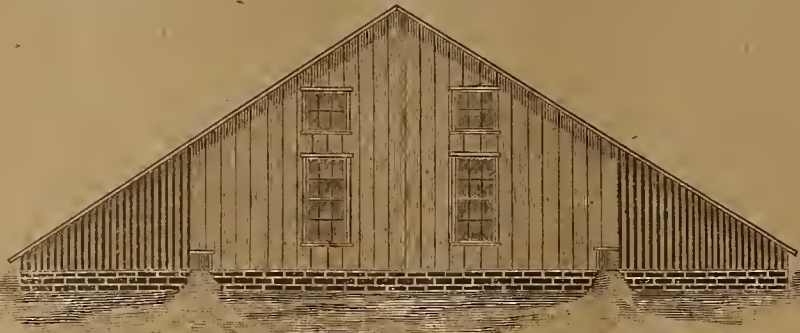
REPLY:—You probably allude to concrete. Any material will answer, if the house can be

Crossing.—S. E. B., Independence, Ohio, writes: "Would you advise crossing a Black Cochon male and Black Spanish pullets, full bred?"

REPLY:—There is no advantage in so doing. Keep both breeds pure. When one begins to cross, he soon destroys the flock entirely.

Lameness.—W. B. A., West Warren, Mass., writes: "A few of my chickens have lumps on their feet, which makes them lame."

REPLY:—Probably due to jumping off a high roost. The remedy is to remove roosts and



MODEL HEN-HOUSE—SOUTH SIDE.

keep them on straw at night until cured, then use low roosts.

The Large Lice.—M. R., Baylis, Ill., writes: "My hens have large lice on them. How shall I get rid of them?"

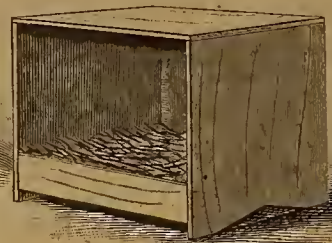
REPLY:—Anoint heads with melted lard, also under the wings and around the vent. When the weather is warmer, dip the hens in a solution of an ounce of tobacco refuse and a gallon of boiling water, to be used when cold. Kerosene emulsion, reduced with twenty-five quarts of water to one of the emulsion, may be used if preferred.

No Males.—W. M. H., Goodyear's Bar, Cal., writes: "1. Will hens lay as many eggs without the male being with them? 2. My hen turkey has a broken leg, which is healing. Can she be used as a sitter? 3. Does feeding corn prevent laying?"

REPLY:—1. The males are unnecessary, as the hens will lay just as many eggs without their presence. 2. It depends upon the nature of the injury; many hens that have been so injured have hatched broods. 3. Not unless fed to excess and exclusively.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SITTING HENS.—Benjamin F. Taylor said, "Hens are like folks." That is, like a great many folks, and I have learned, by thirty years' experience, that I can do better with sitting hens if I act as though I did not want them to sit. When a hen wants to sit, I move her from the laying-room to a room for sitters only, so that the laying hens will not disturb her. With tame hens this is no trouble, and any one can do it, but it is sometimes hard to move wild hens. I always let them sit on their own nests over one night, and if wild, two or three nights, taking out the eggs each night as usual, and if they fly off, I let them go back when they wish. When the hen has been sitting long enough on her own nest, I take her off in the morning and put her in a yard with food and water, but no nest, and keep her there nearly all day, but before night (I never move a hen in the dark) I take her out and put her in the sitting-room, where I have



NEST-BOX.

a good nest with three or four fresh eggs ready for her. I do not put her on the nest, but let her go on at will, and if she will not go on (which is not often), I let her go back to her own nest, and try the same the next day. If she takes the nest prepared for her, I let her sit until the next day, when I take out the eggs and put under her the eggs that I wish her to hatch. While she is sitting I keep her shut in the room, with food and water and a dust-box for her use at any time. After she has been sitting nineteen days, I take out the eggs, place them on the ground and make the nest nice and clean, and dust it with Scotch snuff; then wash the eggs in quite warm water and place them under the hen while damp. This is to moisten the skins that are between the egg-shell and the chick, and assist the chick in getting out in a short time after it picks the shell. When the hen begins to hatch, I take the chicks from her as fast as they are dry, and keep them warm in the daytime, returning them to the hen at night until they are all hatched; then when I have the chicks all away from the hen, I take her from the nest and trim the long shell from the upper beak—not so short as to make it bleed. This shell, which is nature's provision for assisting the chicks in liberating themselves, will grow long in three weeks, not coming in contact with anything hard, and this the hen wishes to part with when she has her chicks all out. That is the reason some hens are cross when they hatch and are not when they are sitting. They wish to break the shell from their beak, and will bite at anything within their reach. After I have trimmed her beak, I give her water and all the corn she will eat, and let her walk about for a short time. I put the chicks where I want them and let her go to them. Then for one day I feed them oatmeal, dry, or bread wet with milk; after that I feed them good wheat, dry. J. W. N. Dayton, Ohio.

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MODEL HEN-HOUSE—NORTH SIDE.

grain a day sufficient for forty hens that are confined in winter. His hens, he states, have been given twice that proportion, yet always ate more, and are apparently ever hungry.

It may be stated that when hens are confined and are so fed, they do not have to scratch; they will always be on the look-out for the attendant, competition and jealously inducing them to at all times,

built cheaply and in a manner adapted for the purpose.

Wire Partitions.—J. H., Bear River City, Utah, writes: "Would wire netting serve as a partition in a square poultry-house having four compartments, separating four flocks of one hundred hens in each, the windows on the south side to light all the apartments?"

REPLY:—The wire will answer, but one hundred hens together is a large flock, and will not thrive as well as one half that number in each apartment.

Our Fireside.

The Old Manor-house in Louisiana

BY SARA H. HENTON.

CHAPTER VI.

His first words were strange ones: "Try to love me a little, Miss Enid."

She was confused, overwhelmed, still could not help but admire the

quaint, earnest way in which he said it, as though he had gone over and over the words before.

"Don't answer me just yet, but think over it. I can't bear much yet, for I spent a miserable night." And he smiled a caressing smile as he said, "But I had a heavenly dream. Do you believe in dreams, Enid?"

She had seated herself near him, and said:

"It was kind of you to send me those beautiful, fragrant flowers this morning. Permit me to thank you for them, please."

No one but herself ever knew how she dreaded that interview. She must be true, even if she should vex him.

"Enid," he said softly, with one of his rare smiles, "I have dared to hope; was it presumption?"

"Must I speak out the whole truth, Captain Randolph?"

While Enid was gentleness itself to those she loved, yet she was quite capable of saying "no" very firmly. She struggled against being harsh, without giving him the least encouragement.

"Enid, do you love any one else?"

"Is that just like your honorable self, Captain Randolph, to ask me such a question?"

"Pardon me," he said, rising, and walking up and down the floor. "Tell me the truth, Enid, and nothing but the truth."

There was a dead silence, lasting so long, it seemed to them both.

"I am young, and not versed in set phrases," she repeated softly, "but I must say that I feel highly honored. To do you justice, however, I shall have to tell you that I do not return your love. It may be just a passing fancy, and you will meet so many gifted, noble women to choose from, that you will be glad I did not answer you as you wish me, perhaps."

"Never! How dare you tell me so—I who have prided myself on knowing how and when to judge—to tell me I do not know? Oh, I feared I would forget myself! Forgive me!" And he threw himself down in a chair, in perfect abandonment, covering his face with his hands.

There was a long silence. He then said in a low voice, "She does not love me. Why couldn't I tell it? I am wretched. I must go."

He got up, walked slowly, half unconsciously, toward the door.

"If—if only you could have loved me—but I was a self-deceived fool. Good-by, Enid."

A few moments of silence ensued. The sweet, fresh air brought the sound through an open window of a voice full of melody, singing "Good-by to Summer." It was Lucy, the colored housemaid, who had caught the air and words from her young mistress—just nature's untrained bird-like caroling that Captain Randolph heard as he said good-by to his hopes, his love.

CHAPTER VII.

"Soon the clouds will scatter,
Blue will soon come back;
Sweetest flowers will blossom
In the tempest's track."

Colonel Gibson and Frank were indefatigable in their efforts to amuse and brighten the remainder of the Howe family's stay, getting up picnics in the woods and riding parties.

The colonel felt as if he was somehow responsible for Enid's grave looks every now and then. Though she fought bravely to repress her feelings, and was usually gay in company, but having a sort of fatherly and brotherly feeling for Frank and the colonel, she dropped her mask before them, and they got an insight into her thoughts. Then, too, the favorite beaux seemed to have suddenly taken flight, and Enid was dumb as to any cause. Captain Randolph was off to the West, where he had some valuable silver-mines that needed his immediate attention, and Lawrence Hunt's law practice was very urgent.

It worried Colonel Gibson, because he was quite sure Enid was very much pleased with one of them, and she certainly seemed happy in their society. But she was so calm in her nature, perhaps he had entirely mistaken her feelings. Yet it was mysterious—their leaving so suddenly.

The weather was not propitious about this time, being stormy, with sudden showers, so the ladies stayed indoors and amused themselves. This just suited Enid's state of mind, and she made good use of it by pleading letters to write, and a desire to be left alone, which the family respected.

Meanwhile all went well with the happy

looked like a bower of lichens, mosses, shells and blossoms.

"Oh, Miss Enid, what a pretty room! Who would ever have dreamed that Brompton could look as it does? Don't you know, we children used to think this was a haunted house, and to dream of spending a night here—why, I would as soon have thought of sleeping amidst the wolves, for I was sure I would be devoured. It used to look so grand and gloomy, and it was said the family was afraid to ever come back, on account of the great-grandmother's ghost, or something quite as ridiculous."

"Well, I'll give you my brush, and let you

When she saw Enid's embarrassment and blushes, she apologized, saying:

"I had no right to ask such a question."

"I did not know, Cecil, that their preference for my society had been a matter of gossip. They enjoyed being with us all. I being older than most of you, they sought my society more; and then, too, they knew you and Bess were engaged."

"Everybody else but you, then, could see they were both deeply, tragically in love with you. Why, they are both noted for always being indifferent, although they are greatly made over. It is said that Estella Ray is very much in love with Lawrence Hunt, but that he does not return it."

"Oh, how unkind of people to say such a thing, and how unmaidenly she must be if it is true, to show her feelings. I should certainly try to hide it."

And as Enid said this, her face was suffused with blushes.

"Most of his friends in New Orleans think she would just suit him. He wants a clever woman of the world. She is very beautiful and wealthy, and no one can see why he don't fancy her," said Cecil.

"I presume he is engaged to Miss Ray. I think he is too honorable a man to be very attentive to a lady without having some idea of marriage. I mean enough attention to cause the world to couple their names together," said Enid.

She could not quite bear to think of him as the husband of another. For this she despised herself.

"Well, darling, you have kept Cecil long enough, and I want her," said Bessie, bursting into the room. "Why, Enid, you look like you had seen the Brompton ghost!"

"Did you ever!" said Cecil. "We have been talking about it, sure enough, haven't we, Enid?"

Enid looked up brightly, and replied as gaily as she could; but deep down in her heart she had seen a ghost—her old glad self.

Would she ever be the same? The whole aspect of life was changed to her since she had left her pleasant, kindly home nearly four months ago. She was usually too much absorbed with others, too alive to their claims on her sympathy, her quiet counsels



"IT WAS KIND OF YOU TO SEND ME THOSE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS."

family at Brompton. Bessie was even more animated and spirited than usual, and was up and ready at any hour to go fishing with Jack and Pete, or riding with Frank. She and Cecil Howard were inseparable, and Cecil spent most of her time at Brompton. As she was also engaged to a young physician, a Dr. Stephens, who was now in New York studying a specialty, it was a bond of sympathy between the two girls; and then Cecil knew so well when she was an intruder—when Frank and Bessie wished to be alone—she was never detrop.

The lovely spring days were shortening, and Mrs. Howe began to talk of starting back to New York, but the others would say, "Oh, not yet, mother; it will be time enough a month or two later."

Bessie and Cecil shared the same chamber, and both girls, unaccustomed to being waited upon, were glad enough to send Lucy away, and talk over their dear, delightful secrets. They had been talking some time, when they were surprised to see Enid come in, saying she had knocked three times without receiving an answer. She had taken the comb from her hair, and shaken down her brown tresses until it looked as if she were covered with a filmy veil.

"I came in," she said, "because I could not sleep; I want one of you girls to brush out my hair for me, for that always helps me, and Lucy has gone down to Mammy's house."

"Oh, my dear Miss Enid, let me, please? I love to comb mother's and father's hair, and always brush father's until I put him to sleep."

"Well, I expect it is well enough to let you do it, for I know you and Bessie would talk all night; I'll put a stop to a part of it," she said, laughing.

"It seems a shame to go to bed," said Bessie, who was sitting on the window-ledge, half out, looking at the loveliness of heaven and earth, and inhaling the fragrance of the delicious blossoms.

"Come over into my room, Cecil," said Enid, "and leave Bess to her tender imaginations. She is happy enough; come cheer me up."

"All right," said Cecil.

Enid had chosen the room that had been her Uncle Don's. It had his bookcase and books, his favorite chair, and Enid had bought white muslin curtains, added a rug or two, and with her love of neatness and pretty, dainty things, had made the room very pretty. The furniture, while old style, was handsome, most of it rosewood and mahogany. She kept vases filled with magnolia blossoms, Camellia Japonica, and had trained vines up over the pictures, growing them in shells. Her room

brush my hair out, while I listen to the ghost legends, for I dearly love to hear about ghosts," said Enid, smiling.

"This was all the talk of the negroes. They used to say they could see the beautiful young lady, who died of a broken heart, looking out the window on moonlight nights, for her lover. He left her, promising to return, but never did, and she grieved herself to death about it. Did you ever hear your mother speak of any such tradition in the family?"

"No. In fact, father would never let a servant mention such a thing as ghost to us children, but still mama would tell us how the colored people believed in them, and of their superstition about hoodooism."

"I'll get Mammy Rhody to tell us what she knows about the Brompton ghost," said Cecil, "for it comes back to visit the fourth generation, and I believe you are the fourth. Wouldn't it be funny to get up some excitement? But really, I'm such an arrant little coward, and so is Bess, that I'd better put off talking about it until to-morrow, hadn't I?"

"I think so, dear," said Enid, "if you are nervous about staying here alone. We were at first, and would not let Mr. Charles stay away at night; but we have gotten over our fears entirely. By the way, Cecil, aren't you coming to New York this fall to make us a visit? Bess is looking forward to it, I know, and we all want you."

"I am just wild to come. I've never been there; in fact, I've never been anywhere, except to New Orleans."

"Mama promised to take us to New Orleans to the Mardi gras, and I think she would have gone if I had insisted upon it," said Enid.

"Do you know what everybody thinks, Miss Enid?"

"About what, Cecil?" asked Enid, a slight tremor in her voice.

"Why, about you and Lawrence Hunt. Everybody thought he was in love with you, and they say you have refused he and Captain Randolph both."

"What makes them think so?"

Yet while she asked this question, how well she remembered every step of their acquaintance, growing as it did in such a short time, and that while Lawrence Hunt was with her, every need of her heart and mind was satisfied; the certainty that if he left her he would come again soon; and now, how they had drifted apart. There was none like him—none! Her thoughts had wandered away from the question asked, and when Cecil's reply came she was hardly prepared for it.

"Why, Miss Enid, you didn't care for either of them, did you?"

Call It a Craze.

AN ALARMING STATEMENT CONCERNING WOMEN.

HOW BAD HABITS ARE FORMED.

The *New York Tribune* says: "The habit of taking 'headache powders' is increasing to an alarming extent among a great number of women throughout the country. These powders as their name indicates, are claimed by the manufacturers to be a positive and speedy cure for any form of headache. In many cases their chief ingredient is morphine, opium, cocaine or some other equally injurious drug, having a tendency to deaden pain. The habit of taking them is easily formed, but almost impossible to shake off. Women usually begin taking them to relieve a raging headache and soon resort to the powder to alleviate any little pain or ache they may be subjected to, and finally like the morphine or opium fiend, get into the habit of taking them regularly, imagining that they are in pain if they happen to miss their regular dose."

In nine cases out of ten, the trouble is in the stomach and liver. Take a simple laxative and liver tonic and remove the offending matter which deranges the stomach and causes the headache. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are composed entirely of the purest, concentrated, vegetable extracts. One Pellet is a dose; sugar-coated, easily swallowed; once used, always in favor. They positively cure sick headache and remove the disposition to it.

Mr. E. VARGASON, of Otter Lake, Lapeer Co., Mich., writes: "I not infrequently have an attack of the headache. It usually comes on in the forenoon. At my dinner I eat my regular meal, and take one or two of Doctor Pierce's Pleasant Pellets immediately after, and in the course of an hour my headache is cured and no bad effects. I feel better every way for having taken them—not worse, as is usual after taking other kinds of pills. 'Pleasant Pellets' are worth more than their weight in gold, if for nothing else than to cure headache."



E. VARGASON, ESQ.

and advice, to think about herself; but it seemed as if she not only had time, but the desire of late to get acquainted with herself.

Mammy Rhody could not be reconciled to the talk of leaving Brompton, of giving up her darling Miss Pauline, until Bessie could find her secret that she was coming back to live at Norfolk with Frank. "And, of course, they will all come back to Brompton soon, because I will not be married anywhere else. Why, Mammy, do you think I would be married and not have you at the wedding? I wouldn't feel like I was married at all."

"Bress yo' lovely soul, chile; I'se glad ter lib ter see it. I'se ready ter die when I sees sum ob our fokes libin' back at Brompton. Deu de niggers can't say, 'Dar is de haunted house, sho.'"

Frank Gibson and his father spent most of their time at Brompton now. The girls did not seem to think it anything out of the way in the colonel. They had learned to love him so much, and enjoyed his genial company, and it was their pleadings to stay that often kept him when he started to go.

Bessie's and Frank's future was discussed openly and in the family now. Frank earnestly begged Mrs. Howe to let them be married before their return to New York, and let him take Bessie to their summer home on the beach. But Mrs. Howe would not consent at all; she must take her back to New York, get her trousseau, and let her be separated from him awhile—she might not know her heart.

It was finally arranged that Mrs. Howe and family should return to New York, stay there awhile, and then have the colonel and Frank come and spend a few weeks with them. Then (at Bessie's earnest request) they would return to Brompton in November, and Bessie and Frank would be married under the orange blossoms of old Brompton's growing.

I do not think the young Howes could have made up their minds to leave Brompton with any degree of satisfaction if the promise from their mother to come back had not been given them. It was too lovely now, they thought, for earth. The April tints, the blossoms, as far and wide as the earth about them reached, seemed laden with perfumed blooms. They had all known the true joy of living in this land, fraught with sad memories to the elder, but known only to the younger ones as the brightest spot on earth.

"New York will certainly seem tame in comparison to Brompton," said Bessie, which would have called forth a volley of derision and laughter from some of Gotham's fair maidens. And Jack made his mother shed tears by declaring he would not go back, and he was willing to stay with Mr. Charles, and spend part of the time with Colonel Gibson and Frank. She laughingly told the colonel he was trying to defraud her of her children's love.

What bright, swift-flying hours made up the months which intervened between Mr. Howe's death and the autumn of that eventful year!

The happiness of being back at home in New York was partially destroyed by the gloom that at once settled over Mrs. Howe again. There hung her husband's portrait; every turn and move reminded her of the old sore and wound. She lost her appetite, and the girls were distressed for fear, after all, the dear, glad life of the last few months had not been as beneficial to her as they had supposed.

But Enid determined to get her away to a summer resort as soon as she could; and the shopping and extra work that fell again on Enid's shoulders was the very best thing for her. There were one and a dozen things to attend to—dressmakers, house overlooked, stocks and bonds to see after, servants to look up, and really, life was no dream now. Her trip South had made a woman of her in more ways than one. She never could be a light-hearted, free, happy school-girl again; she felt years older. She had developed physically until she was a superb-looking young woman, and she saw that she attracted attention.

It was thought best by the family physician to get a summer cottage near the sea-shore, and made all arrangements himself. He said Jack and Mrs. Howe both had lung trouble, and it would be necessary for them to go South every winter. They made a flying visit to New York, and scarcely considered it home, before they were duly installed in their new quarters.

Mrs. Howe seemed to have taken cold coming home, and Bessie wrote to Frank, telling how alarmed they felt, and in less than ten days after they got comfortably fixed, who should drive up but the gallant Colonel Gibson. Such hugging and kissing as Jack and Bessie gave him—and he claimed a kiss from the stately Enid—ought to have satisfied any vain man.

"I knew you would get sick, leaving Louisiana before the last of May. I didn't want you to come, and really, Pauline, you look many pounds lighter; you must go back."

The rose flush came faintly for the first time, and there was a glad light in her eye.

[To be continued.]

IT IS SO EASY TO CONTRACT A COLD, which from its obstinacy, may entail a long siege of discomforts before getting rid of it that the afflicted should resort at once to that old established remedy, Dr. D. Jayne's Expectant, which will speedily remove all Coughs and Colds, and help you to avoid all complications involving the Throat and Lungs.

GLADYS MEERS' VENTURE.

The Story of a Girl's Grit, and What Came of It.

"H, Gladys, have you heard of the news about Oakley Swain?" called the cheery voice of Jessie Payne, as she paused at the gate before the low, rambling white house, half hidden behind a venerable Virginia creeper.

"Is that you, Jessie? Come in, won't you?" "No, thank you, I haven't a minute to spare; but have you heard about Oakley Swain?"

"Yes," returned Gladys. "You are the third person who stopped this morning to speak of it. Doesn't it seem as if good luck is bound to follow him?"

"Well, I don't know about the good luck; he earned it all, you know."

"Oh, yes, of course; but he had to have the chance, and there is where the luck comes in. To think of a boy actually earning his entire college course through a medical college, and all in a few months, too. Professor Grey says that the world will hear from Oakley Swain some day."

"I hope so," Jessie said warmly.

"So do I," quickly responded Gladys; "and I think that the world would hear from a great many other people if they only had half a chance. It seems that luck, or whatever you choose to call it, has been good to Will Sanders, too. You know how anxious he has always been to learn civil engineering, and he told Bob last night that he had won a year's study in one of the leading schools, and only worked a few weeks to get it. It sounds like a fairy story, doesn't it?"

"We were talking about you. Oakley," said

"Were people kind to you?" asked Jessie.

"Indeed they were. I found many persons knew of the free scholarships, and were more than willing to give their names and encouragement to a fellow who was working to help himself through school. I should not now hesitate to undertake it if it required ten times as much work."

"Wish I had such an opportunity," said Gladys sadly.

"Why, you have," said Oakley. "Many girls are working for free scholarships. Some for courses in art or music, others for a year in stenography, bookkeeping or the schools for trained nurses. Some are having splendid success, too."

"Girls!" exclaimed Gladys in astonishment. "You don't mean to say that the offer is to girls, too?"

"Of course it is. I met one pretty, bright-eyed girl who was out among her friends taking subscriptions; she was working for fifty names for a course of shorthand by mail, and she then had ten, the result of one afternoon's work. This girl told me that her sister was taking a course in stenography, and had been promised a situation as soon as she finished; but I don't suppose a great many girls will bother their heads about it. But if I talk any longer I will miss the mail-train, and I want this letter to go by next mail. Good-by."

"I'd like to show Oakley Swain that girls have grit," said Gladys half to herself; then looking earnestly at Jessie she added: "I would be willing to work my fingers to the bones for a college education."

"I believe you would," said Jessie; "and I wish I was rich enough to buy you a scholarship."

And then they parted, and Gladys went back to join her mother on the porch.



"WE WERE TALKING ABOUT YOU, OAKLEY."

impulsive Jessie Payne, as he came up to the gate and greeted them.

"And I was just thinking of you," replied the young man, looking at Gladys, who pretended not to see the glance, and hastily remarked:

"I knew you were back home; I saw you at church last night. Mama and I walked behind you as far as Susie Kay's."

"Wish I'd known you were there," replied Oakley. "Bob tells me that he and Joe enter college next year."

"Yes," said Gladys; "both of the boys are to have a collegiate course, but ignorance is good enough for me, as I'm only a girl." And then to change the current of the conversation she quickly added, "But do tell us how you managed to get all those subscribers. Wasn't it hard work?"

"Work? Why, no, it wasn't hard work. It takes a little courage—that is all. In fact, it is rather interesting traveling about and studying all sorts of people."

"But how did you do it?" said Gladys.

"Well, when I first heard about this wonderful offer of an education in any one of the universities or business schools, free of expense, I said to myself, 'Here's your chance; don't let it slip.' And I went to work without a minute's delay. My intention was to receive names enough to entitle me to one year's study; but once in the business, and finding people ready to lend help and encouragement to a young man working for an education, I did not give up until I had received a list which entitles me to a complete course, and in two years your humble servant will be able to subscribe himself a full-fledged M.D."

Mrs. Meers, who fully realized her daughter's earnestness, could only shake her head as she listened to the account of the free educational scheme of the FARM AND FIRESIDE and LADIES HOME COMPANION.

"I am afraid I can give you no encouragement, my child," said she. "Your father would never consent to it."

"Well, mother dear, I must try once more, and then if father still says 'no,' I will give it all up, and try to settle down and be content."

Together the mother and daughter entered the comfortable sitting-room, where Mr. Meers sat reading his paper.

Gladys, with all the enthusiasm of her nature, laid before her father all that she had learned about the free scholarship plan.

He saw that she was greatly agitated. For a moment he seemed undecided how to reply, then said slowly:

"My dear child, I admit that all this which you have heard is true, and it is a grand opportunity for a young man, and if you were a boy I would advise you to try it, but"—he hesitated; a new thought had come to him on the spur of the moment. The next instant he looked up with a smile, and to the astonishment and delight of his daughter, said: "All right, my dear; go ahead and try it if you wish."

For a moment Gladys looked at her father in amazement; she thought she could never have heard right, then attempted to give some expression to the gratitude she felt, and was off to share the good news.

Just as she turned the corner by the post-office, whom should she meet but her friend Florence, walking so fast that she was almost

Strange

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out of breath, and it would be hard to say which girl seemed the most eager and excited. "Oh, Gladys!" and "Flo, you can't guess what's happened!" they both began in one breath.

"I'm going to college," said Gladys.

"And so am I," answered Florence; and then they looked into each others' faces inquiringly.

"It's the free scholarship offered by the publishers of the FARM AND FIRESIDE and the LADIES HOME COMPANION," exclaimed Gladys,



GLADYS RECEIVED SUBSCRIPTIONS BY MAIL.

by way of explanation.

"I see," said Florence; "you are going to take the regular collegiate course, and I'm going to study music."

"Oh, Florence, really?"

"Gladys, are we dreaming?"

"When did you hear of it?" asked Florence.

"Oakley Swain told me this morning. But how did you hear of it?"

"Mother saw the announcement in a magazine at Mrs. Andrews' last night, and she said that it seemed as if God had sent what she had been praying for all these years—an opportunity to have me educated in music."

The outfits were ordered, both orders going in the same envelop. Then the girls hastened to the post-office to mail the missive, which meant so much to their future.

There happened to be no one in the post-office but the postmaster and the neighboring druggist, who had come over to have a good chat during a dull business hour.

As Gladys laid the letter on the shelf before the window, the postmaster carelessly glanced at it—"Mast, Crowell & Kirkpatrick," read it aloud with the privilege of an old family friend, as he tossed it back to some mysterious place.

"Why, Gladys, are you thinking of taking one of those scholarships that I hear so much talk about?" asked he, and then of course he was soon made acquainted with the whole affair, he evincing his interest during the recital with many wise nods of the head, and an occasional "I want to know," "Do tell," "U-uh;" and when the details were all finished, "Well, I declare!" said he, then turning to the druggist, "We didn't have any such chances as this in our young days, did we, Joe?"

"No, sir," replied the druggist. "We used to think that a town boy need only know how to read, write and cipher, and that the farmer needed to know nothing but how to farm."

"I read some letters on this subject in the FARM AND FIRESIDE lately," continued the postmaster. "They were written by professors in several of the great universities; Pro-



GLADYS LANDS IN A STRANGE TOWN.

fessor Stone, of Purdue University, said that the self-dependent students at his university held the best places in the classes. And President Schueman, of Cornell University, said that the farmers' sons are always the best students they get at the universities, and that he was glad to know that so many were taking advantage of the opportunities offered to secure a higher education. Let me see, who

was it that said that the boys who pay for their own way are all the better for it? I've got the paper here somewhere."

"Here it is," said he. "It's Professor Scott, of the Ohio State University, who says that earning his own education gives a boy steadiness and firmness of character that comes only from meeting and overcoming obstacles. Here are his exact words."

"He has once dared. He has tested his powers. He has achieved something. He has buffeted the waves and knows that he can swim. Hence, he trusts himself."

"That's just it!" cried Gladys. "It's exactly the same with a girl—she is fully as able and willing to work and make something of herself as a boy, if only she is given the same chance."

"I believe you are right, Gladys, especially if the girl be as quick to see her chance as you and Florence. You will give your friends an opportunity to start you off. I say, suppose you let me head your list with my wife's name; and, let's see," continued he thoughtfully, chewing the end of his pencil, "I guess I'll send a copy of the FARM AND FIRESIDE to my boy, Joe, down in Saline county. I believe you take subscriptions for both papers?"

"Oh, yes," said Florence.

"Well, Joe will be glad enough to have a paper devoted to farming interests. It is something that every farmer needs."

"Just wait a bit," interrupted the druggist, who hurried over to his own store, only to return in a minute or two with a couple of blank books and lead-pencils in his hand.

"You girls want to do this in proper shape," said he, "just put John Harlon's subscription down in black and white, Miss Gladys, and mark them paid, too," added he as the postmaster placed two shining silver coins in her hand. "And now my turn," and taking the little book that he had given to Florence, he wrote his wife's name, and then, not to be outdone by the postmaster, thought of the children's school-teacher.

"Flo," said Gladys, as they walked back home, each bearing in her hand the previous first fruits of her work, "if it is all as easy as this, I'll be able to go to college next year. Isn't it grand that we are allowed to select our own schools?"

"Isn't it, though. I want to go to the leading musical conservatory of the country, for I will there not only have the advantages of the very best masters and methods, but the benefit of the highest educational and social surroundings as well; and I want to select an institution whose diplomas entitle its graduates to a foremost position in the musical circles. I think I can be graduated after a year's training; but, Gladys, how do you expect to secure enough names for a full four years' course?"



SHE TURNED AS SOMEBODY AT HER ELBOW WHISPERED TO HER.

"I'll work each vacation for enough subscribers to pay for the year following," said Gladys in a tone of confidence. "That will be easy enough, for the same people will renew their subscription each year."

"That's an excellent idea; I never thought of that. You will surely succeed, Gladys."

"Well, Flo, I mean to. I shouldn't undertake it unless I expected to make it a success. If you begin anything, carry it through, no matter what is the cost, that is my principle."

In a few days the outfits arrived from the publishers. "How perfectly splendid! Why, the premiums are well worth all that the publishers ask for the subscriptions." They were even better than any one could have anticipated.

Never will Gladys forget her first application for a subscription from a stranger. She had a note from the postmaster to a Mrs. McKenzie, in White Hall, and as she stood at the door in fear and trembling, she thought that the servant must certainly hear her heart beat as she said:

"Please say that Miss Meers wishes to see Mrs. McKenzie."

The girl quickly looked the stranger all over, eyeing the package in her hand suspiciously. But Gladys, with her low voice, quite ladylike manners and neat attire, commanded respect, and the girl responded, "Yes, ma'am," and ushered her into the parlor, leaving Gladys breathing more freely.

But she again took alarm at the appearance of Mrs. McKenzie, who looked worried, and entered the room hurriedly, as if she did not intend to stay long. Gladys heard a child's cry, and feeling with a woman's quick intuition that the visit was ill-timed, immediately arose, saying in a voice of sympathy, which at once drove the frown from her hostess' face:

"I am afraid I have interrupted you, Mrs. McKenzie. I hear a child crying; maybe the poor little fellow is ill; but I wanted to deliver this letter from Mr. John Harlon, our postmaster at—"

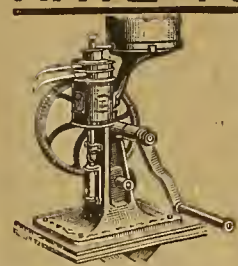
"Oh, Mr. Harlon is an old friend of my husband's," said Mrs. McKenzie, taking the letter. "Just excuse me a minute, I'll bring Robbie down; he is so fretful to-day."

And in a few minutes she returned with the now pacified Robbie in a clean pinafore and shining face. And after all, it was Master Robbie who broke the ice for Gladys, by demanding to see the "pretty pictures" in the lady's book.

Opening a copy of the LADIES HOME COMPANION to show him the pictures, she said to his mother:

"I'm getting up a list of subscribers, as Mr. Harlon stated in his note. The publishers of this paper have offered to pay all my college expenses if I can complete my club list. You—"

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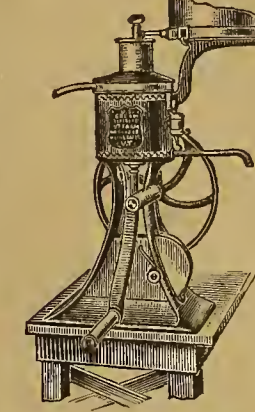
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"Oh, yes, I've heard all about that," spoke Mrs. McKenzie, "but do you think you can ever get enough names to pay for a college education?"

"There isn't a particle of doubt about it. I'll keep at work until I do. But I don't think it will take so very long, and people are very kind."

And although she did not know it, she owed her success almost entirely to the ready, unselfish sympathy she felt for fretful Robbie and his tired mother.

Another result of her first visit to a stranger was that out of the fifteen names given by Mrs. McKenzie she secured ten subscribers.

When she and Florence compared notes that night after their first day's work, they were fully as much delighted with the kindness which they had received as they were with their splendid success. And it continued so all during the weeks that they remained in White Hall. It really seemed to them more like making a pleasant visit to friends than it did like work.

At the end of the week Florence found, to her unspeakable joy, that her list, counting the subscribers promised before she left home, was large enough to pay for her year's training in music.

Gladys had from the start kept strict account of her list of names, and knew that she was now entitled to her year at college, and so they talked over all their plans that night.

"Gladys," remarked Florence solemnly, "we have accomplished the great undertaking of our lives."

"It is a great pity that more do not undertake it," replied Florence.

"But, Flo, dear, we don't know how many are doing just as we are. I saw somewhere that the publishers expected to help fully one thousand students this year," said Gladys.

Florence returned home, but Gladys continued the work.

What could be more encouraging?

A few more weeks and Gladys took a day to carefully go over her list, and to her surprise she discovered that instead of having almost enough, as she had supposed, she had fifteen names over the number required to pay for a full collegiate course in one of the leading colleges of the country.

Her feelings can better be surmised than described; but the first thing she did was to send a telegram to her mother and father, telling them the joyful news.

And then, with a light and happy heart, she turned her face toward home. It was an all-

day journey, but so fast and so pleasantly flew her thoughts, that before she realized it, the hills of Chester were in view, and she began nervously to wonder who would be at the station to meet her. She hoped to see her father waiting for her.

Finally the train drew up beside the long, low, wooden platform, and as she stepped out at the car door, her father reached out both hands affectionately to help her down from the steps, saying:

"Well, my brave girl," and at her look of surprised delight, he added, "Oh, your mother has kept me well informed all along, and I must say that I only hope that my boys will show half as much grit and steady determination as their sister."

And then somebody at her elbow whispered: "Gladys, may I humbly and most respectfully offer my congratulations?" It was Oakley Swain, who added: "A girl has the grit of a dozen boys."

And to-day two of the most successful students, one in a great university and the other in the leading musical institution of the country, are the girls whose story you have just read.

But the best of all is that a like chance to earn a complete education in any school in America, courses absolutely without expense, is now open to all young men and women who want to fit themselves for a higher position in life, or to secure a special training that will enable them to at once become self-supporting.

All young people who wish an opportunity to secure an education free of expense are invited to send their addresses to the publishers of the FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio.

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Our Household.

TRUMPS.

The old days, the school days,
How we remember them!
The master pacing to and fro,
The yellow benches in a row,
The blackboard all about the walls,
Their very memory recalls
The perching hickory limb
That hung above the desk in view
Of everyone, and we all knew
That clubs were trumps.

The wooing-time, the cooing-time,
When souls were full of rhyme!
And lips were red and cheeks aglow
With tints like sunshine o'er the snow,
Glad eyes as bright as morning dew,
And when she smiled and looked at you
'Twas love's sweet summer-time;
And days, like apple blossoms, fell
Unheeded, for we knew full well
That hearts were trumps.

The busy life, the happy life,
When we have sought a nest,
And forth unto the market square
Each day we cry our chosen ware,
While by us in a maze is whirled
The bustling, hurrying, working world
In fortune's furious quest.
Strong hearts, brave souls, oh, need you then
To seek and win the prizes when
Diamonds are trumps?

The trying hour, the dying hour,
The hour of penitence!
Strong souls each day by death-winds whirled
Into that nameless after-world;
When wilt thou blow, O winds, to me
And waft me o'er the dead men's sea
Into the silent thence?
A little while the sable bier,
The tolling bell, the mourning tear—
Then spades are trumps.

—Maurice Crayton.

THE LATEST FASHIONS.

WITH Easter Sunday so close at hand, one almost forgets the sacrifices made during the forty days and forty nights of fasting and prayer, and the Lenten season with its sewing circles, little charities, reading classes, and quiet visits to the play will soon be a thing of the past—only a memory. Easter falling so late in the season this year gives us every reason to expect fine weather and blue skies for the airing of the many new creations in millinery, wraps and gowns that have been in preparation for some time. And if indications mean anything, this season will show a marked return to the old-fashioned idea that one must blossom out in new gowns and hats, to match the color of the early spring flowers.

For many years this custom has been foregone by the people who could afford gorgeous array, allowing it to be carried on by those of lesser means. Easter Sunday this season will undoubtedly show Fifth avenue crowded with women clothed in the best, newest and prettiest that can be



FIG. 3.—BLACK CREPON DRESS.

found, while the people in the less fashionable districts will do their part to remind one that the day of airing new spring bonnets and gowns is once more with us.

Fashions are in the transition stage again, and the feminine mind is in a state of agitation by doubts and fears as to the next movement of that fickle dame, Madame La Mode.

Dress and style have become so important a feature in the fashionable woman's life that the subject must lose none of its interest, and much of her time is necessarily given up to the study of what is new and most fetching in effect. If she possess enough natural grace and style, the study of how to dress will not monopolize so much of her time, for her gowns will be a success, because they are worn by her. But if grace and style are cultivated, her selections must be made with a great amount of thought and care.



FIG. 1.—STREET DRESS.

The general styles in dress bid fair to remain about as they have been, showing full, stiffened skirts, waists made full and much trimmed, with sleeves quite as expansive as ever, especially in thin materials. One frequently sees as many as three different kinds of material in one sleeve, which only shows how great are the liberties taken with this overdone portion of the fashionable gown.

Tailor gowns of tweed are made with short coats, or with a plaited waist like the Norfolk jacket. In some are seen tight-fitting coats, with vests of silk or in oriental effect.

The new serges are light in weight and cheaper in price than ever before. The most stylish and newest wool dress materials are rough in finish, loosely woven and charmingly mixed with two or three colorings. The silk being thrown upon the surface in dots, loops and dashes of bright colors.

The loosely woven goods require a silk lining to make them look up-to-date, and this must be a contrasting color that will show through the meshes. Gowns of black grenadine made over a colored silk lining are sometimes trimmed in every seam with a tiny ruffle of grenadine and silk set in. Some of the skirts of the new spring gowns are exaggerated in width, and are made with a seam directly in front, and this and the seams on each side are trimmed with inch-wide bands of lace insertion over a color, or with jetted bands. Black and white striped silk skirts, with waists of the same over which is worn a black velvet Bolero jacket elaborately trimmed with jet, is a costume shown as one of the newest and most taking.

Revers have lost none of their popularity, but have assumed a new shape by being draped instead of standing out in stiff points, and in some of the gowns they are made in triplets, each being of different materials, but of course must harmonize well with the gown.

Fig. 1 shows a style always in good taste, and will be worn for the street in early spring. The entire costume is of wool material checked in three shades of brown. It shows a full skirt, with a band of brown cloth braided in yellow for a foot trimming. The Norfolk jacket, with three plaits both back and front, has a rolling collar, belt and gauntlet cuffs to match the trimming on the skirt. Belts are once again belts, which allows the skirt to come up over the band instead of going under, as they have been doing of late. The

coming season will see a reign of belts and sashes, especially with the thin washable dress.

A dainty and effective Easter gown is shown in Fig. 2, the skirt of which is rough silk bengaline in a light shade of heliotrope trimmed with black passementerie dotted with sequins. The blouse waist is of black satin closely sprinkled with jet sequins, over which is worn a black velvet Eton jacket, with turn-over revers faced with heliotrope bengaline. The full sleeves match the waist, while the collar is of black velvet.

Ribbons will play a prominent part in spring garniture both for gowns and millinery.

Braided effects on cloth gowns are much in evidence, and some of the Eton jackets are braided all over, having large, full, plain sleeves.

Black crepon is shown in such a variety of patterns it would seem almost possible for every-

one to have one of these desirable gowns, and still be different from everybody else. For spring the crepon skirt will be the fashionable one to wear with odd, fancy waists.

Fig. 3 shows a full skirt of black crepon, with a blouse of the same trimmed with triple revers, the center one being of black and white striped satin duchess, while the upper and lower ones are of the crepon. The full sleeves of striped satin show a pretty draped effect at the elbow.



FIG. 2.—EASTER GOWN.

In millinery the little Dutch bonnet, with its wide bows of ribbon or lace and flowers on each side just back of the ears, seems to be the favorite. The most of them are made in jet effects, with bunches of bright flowers, or very tiny ostrich tips which are jetted. Whatever the bonnet may be, it

widows, are trimmed with yellow Valenciennes lace, and are worn with bright-colored and black dresses.

Shirt-waists continue to multiply in variety, and are found in dotted swiss in both black and white.

Flowers will be seen on everything this next season—even placed on the waists of heavy materials.

MARY K.

EASTER EGGS.

A few designs for Easter eggs, easily made at home, are given. Use crimped



DIAGRAM OF ONE HALF OF NUN'S CAP—WORKING SIZE.

paper for the frilled cap, black glazed paper for the gentlemen's hats, and stiff white paper for the nun. The faces are easily painted in water-colors. One half of the nun's cap, in working size, is also given.

L. L. C.

A PRETTY BEDROOM AT SMALL COST.

Select some soft, pretty color, which should harmonize with the furnishings of the room—old rose and light blue, pink and olive, old blue and white, yellow and white. Any of these combinations are very pretty, and easily carried out in the trimmings. Let the combination selected peep out in the toilet articles, both the china and fancy articles and in any drapery you may use.

I will describe a room which a fond mother prepared with skilful fingers, as a surprise for her young daughter upon her return from boarding-school; the limits of her purse not admitting of a large outlay. The prevailing tint of the room was old blue. The floor was covered with matting, into which the color was woven. Almost everything else in the room was spotless white. The little bed in the corner had tent-like draperies of dotted swiss, with a ruffle. The windows had sash curtains of the same shirr material. Opposite the door stood a dainty toilet-table, with white over blue for the draperies. The roomy wash-stand also wore a similar dress. Against the wall was a bookcase, a dainty screen stood by the fireplace, while one old-fashioned rocker and several small chairs and a footstool completed the furnishing, with the exception of several dainty pictures in white frames, which adorned the walls.

For the toilet-table and wash-stand, you can purchase for ninety cents each, two deal kitchen tables. For the wash-stand, saw off the extending ledge at each end, making it an inch or two shorter; screw two eyes into the front, and one at each end close to the back. Make the valance in three divisions; to the piece for the front sew rings to run on a wire which hooks into the eyes, so it can be slipped aside, thus making the space underneath available for the foot-tub and water-can; the



EASTER EGGS.

must be wide across from side to side, but narrow from front to back.

The new jet trimmings are made so dainty and light on wet grounds that they are very pretty on the new summer silks.

Spangled black satin ribbon is used for bretelles, collar and belt on some of the new spring dresses with a charming effect.

Fine white muslin collars and cuffs such as are generally the exclusive style for

two end valances run on a draw-string and tie to the eyes. Over the top fasten a piece of enameled cloth, and over that a linen scarf embroidered in blue. A very nice set of blue-and-white crockery can be bought for three dollars. If preferred, a cabinet-maker could make a back for the wash-stand, with shelves for a mug, etc., like in the illustration, which can easily be enameled white with some of the pre-

pared enamel paints that can be purchased in twenty-cent cans.

The toilet-table was arranged in a similar manner, with a movable valance which hides a shelf underneath for the use of shoes, boxes, etc. The mirror, in this case, was draped with the swiss, but any pretty fancy mirror would be more durable, though costing more. The toilet-table illustrated is a beautiful model, and can be easily made at home. The valance is of plain blue. Any soft, inexpensive material will answer. If flowered goods are preferred for draperies, silkoline, which sells for ten cents a yard, is very soft and pretty; besides, it has just smooth enough a surface to refuse dust, which is quite an advantage. It comes in combinations of almost any color. The drawer of the toilet-table illustrated is covered, as you see, with white canvas worked with blue cotton in cross-stitch, finished with a ruche of the material, or braid the same color, and tied to the brass handles with cord and tassels to correspond.

The bed is of iron, enameled with white enamel paint; gold can be added here and there, if desired. When you have decided where the bed is to stand, if a drapery is desired, fasten to the wall by means of a bracket an enameled broomstick, and throw your drapery over this, catching it back with a bow of blue, or of the material at each side of the bed.

Should there be no closet in the room, with the aid of a good carpenter one can easily be constructed with little outlay. In one corner have the carpenter fasten to the wall two boards furnished with clothes-hooks, meeting in the corner; rest on these a triangular board for the top, and another like it rest securely on the base-boards, forming a board for the closet. Instead of doors, hang across the front, by means of rings sliding on wire or a curtain-pole, two curtains of heavy drapery material.

An old-fashioned case of drawers will be found quite useful—indeed, necessary, as there is no bureau. Enamel with white, insert brass knobs, and cover the top with a pretty scarf, upon which dainty pictures and boxes can be placed.

The bookcase consists of four smooth boards secured to upright side boards. Use the top for bric-a-brac, and drape the front with curtains.

A roomy old rocker padded with a comfort and neatly covered with cretonne or jute, with a box-couch to correspond, are indeed real luxuries. If the room is small, do not attempt the latter articles,

dainty. Do not make it too heavy. One and a half or two pounds of cotton is sufficient. To make the daisies, get one ounce of white and one fourth of an ounce of yellow worsted and a ball of white cotton yarn. When ready to tie the comfort, cut white and yellow worsted in pieces one and one half inches long; take twenty-five pieces of white and place five yellow pieces on them, tie them to the comfort with the cotton yarn, then spread out worsted or zephyr and fuzz it up with a darning-needle, keeping the yellow in the center, and when well fuzzed up, take the scissors and trim off a little to make it smooth. The daisies can be made of yellow, with brown centers, or asters in three shades of pink are very pretty.

Very dainty etchings can now be purchased at the art-stores for twenty-five cents, and framed in white molding for fifty cents. A few of these on the walls add much to the cheerfulness of the room.

A very novel as well as useful stand or table is composed of three tiers shaped like crescents. They are sometimes found at furniture-stores or manufactories in plain, unstained pine, or they can be made by a carpenter. Stain the shelves, or cover neatly with plush or silk, and tack a bag of the material to the curve of the crescents, for holding fancy work.

A great deal of taste may be displayed in the furnishing of any part of a house, but a bedroom can be made both pretty and cozy with the least outlay of money.

M. E. SMITH.

FLOWERS—THEIR INFLUENCE AND CULTURE.

At this season, when all nature is springing into life, our thoughts instinctively turn to the beautiful. The heart of many a woman and many a child has been dwarfed and warped by unpleasant surroundings, and I desire to make a strong plea for flowers about the home.

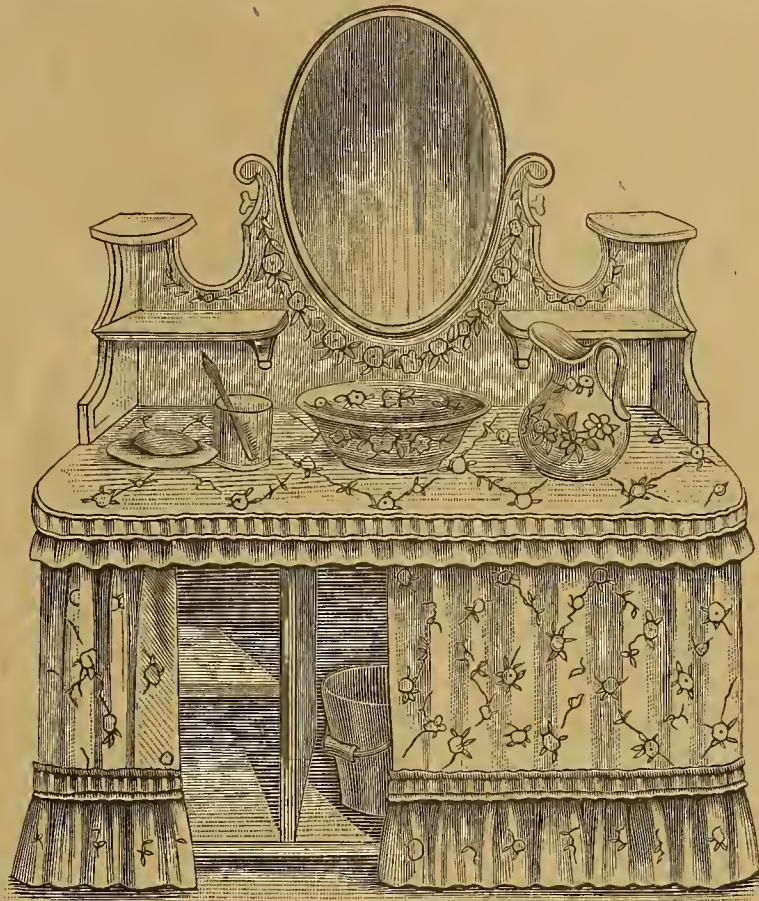
Many a dooryard that might be made a beautiful spot, and become a joy not only to the owners, but to every passer-by as well, is left barren and desolate, or overgrown with weeds, becomes the final resting-place of all kinds of rubbish. Is it any wonder that the women in such households take but little pleasure in life, and that the children reared among such surroundings lack much of that courteous manner that is always pleasing, and that they have but little love for such a home?

Some woman may say she would like to cultivate flowers, but cannot do so from lack of conveniences. She may be perfectly honest in her convictions, but we

though the flowers be in large boxes or in barrels cut in two and set on blocks to protect them from the familiarity of the stock, which on some farms are allowed as free access to the dooryard as the family; or put the flowers in boxes nailed to the window-ledge. Have a few, somewhere and somehow, and by and by their influence is bound to be felt.

If the "men-folks" call it all nonsense, and seem to have a fixed determination

can attend to a few nasturtiums or sweet-peas, or both, for they are of such easy culture. Indeed, I believe the former would bear a few blossoms if nothing more was ever done to them than to plant the seeds; but like all other plants, they respond readily to care. Sweet-peas are as easily grown as garden peas, require about the same care, and should be sown as early as they are. They must have some sort of a support, and while brush answers



WASH-STAND.

not to help in any way, nor to put the yard in better order, don't be discouraged, but quietly go ahead and do the best you can, anyway, and when the flowers bloom, do not fail to have a few on the table daily during the entire season. They may never seem to notice them, but the flowers will have their effect, just the same. Flowers are potent, though silent educators and refiners, and those surrounded by them cannot fail to be influenced by their brightness and beauty. If the family come regularly to a neatly laid table, on which is a bouquet of flowers, they will instinctively be more polite and gentle. The beauty and fragrance of the dainty blossoms steal unconsciously into their lives, influencing their characters and making them more manly and womanly.

Then, when the contrast between the bright flower-beds and the rough, weedy yard makes itself apparent, it will be an easy matter to have the yard mowed. And so, little by little, these "earthly angels," these "stars that in earth's firmament do shine," will brighten our lives and kindle higher thoughts and ambitions within our hearts, although we may never realize their source. And surely, although it may be very slowly, a better, purer home atmosphere will be developed, which will become more apparent as the years go by.

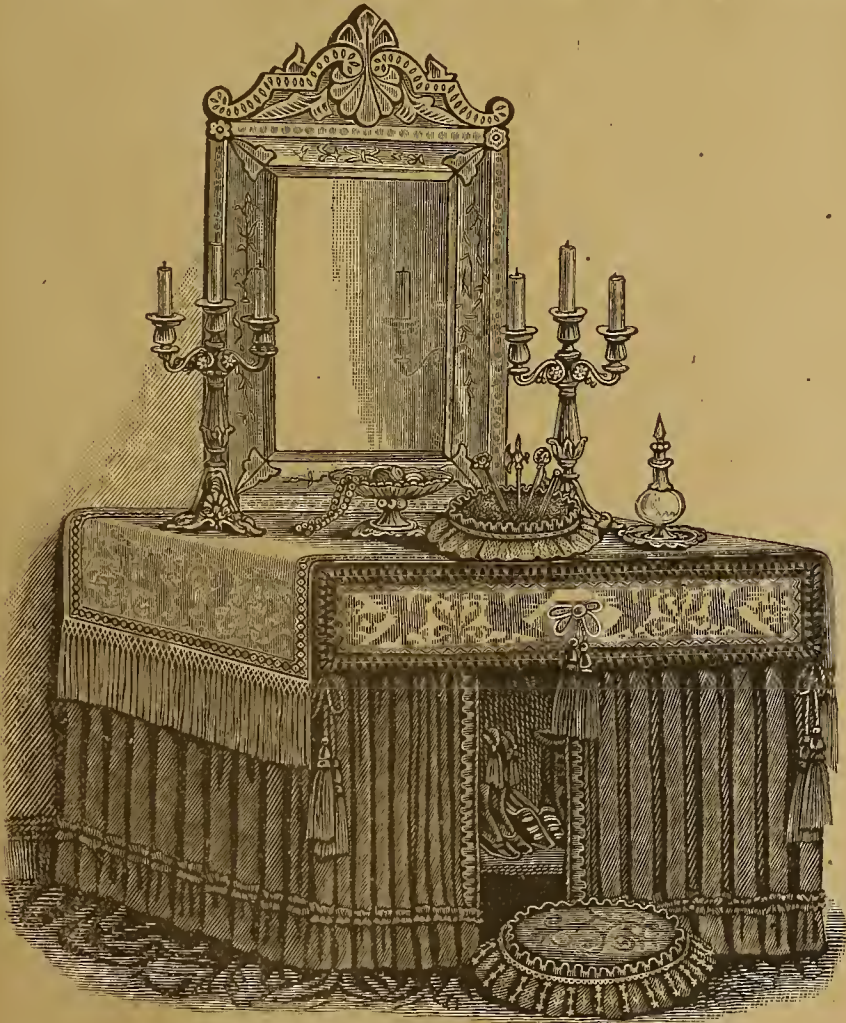
I know full well that on many farms there is in the early spring but little time for "extras," as I know by many years' experience. However, I do not think that woman lives who is so busy but that she

all right, the best thing is meshed wire fencing.

In order to keep up a succession of bloom for either of these flowers, all blossoms must be picked as soon as they wither, for if they once begin to bear seed, they quit blooming; but the more blossoms cut, the more they form, and both my nasturtiums and sweet-peas have been as full of blossoms when the frost took them late in October as they were the latter part of June. There is no flower grown that is better for table or house decoration than these two, and later I will suggest some ways of using nasturtiums that are both practical and attractive.

Then there are so many perennial flowers and shrubs that are such a boon to the busy woman. Send for some of the seed catalogues advertised in this paper, and make selection of half a dozen or more varieties that will live and bloom for years, and finally become a part of the home and live in the memory of the children all through their after life.

But do not make the mistake that so many do of cultivating flowers purely for show, and putting them all off in the front yard. Have a part of them near the kitchen door, where you can see them every time you raise your eyes from your work. Have them by the well, and not far from the wood-pile. Let them be where you will enjoy their beauty and fragrance every time you slip out of the kitchen door, and where the men will see them as they come and go. C. S. E.



TOILET-TABLE.

but use a small rocker, and make a window-box, with the seat cushioned; the box will be found useful for many things. A bamboo footstool and a screen of the same are inexpensive.

Drape the mantel and ornament it with vases, pictures, etc.

A very pretty cover for the bed is a comfort made of cheese-cloth or serim. One of pale blue lined with cream color and caught with daisies is very pretty and

know the truthfulness of the old adage, "Where there's a will there's a way." So with this one:

"When a woman says she will, she will,
And you may depend on't;
When she says she won't, she won't,
And there's the end on't."

So, if one really and truly desires to have the dooryard in good condition, and to have a few flowers, it can in some way be accomplished if an effort is made, even

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BRONCHITIS, CONSUMPTION,
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And all DERANGEMENTS of the BREATH-
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SUFFERING PUBLIC WHO HAVE
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FRENCH DYE CO., Vassar, Mich.

NEW FLOWERS, Roses, Seeds and Bulbs
by mail at little prices—1 trial packet each Sunshine Pansies, Dbl. Diadem Pinks, Fairy Poppies, Sweet Peas, Sweet Alyssum—5 pkts. and Catalog, only 10c. ALFRED F. CONARD, Box 11, West Grove, Pa.

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POSITIVE GUARANTEE

to wash as clean as can be done on the 75,000 in. washboard and with much more ease. This applies to Terrill's Perfect Washing Machine which will be sent on trial at wholesale price; if not satisfactory money refunded. Agents Wanted. For exclusive territory, terms and prices write PORTLAND MFG. CO., Box 4, Portland, Mich.

Associated with
Dr. ISAAC THOMPSON'S EYE WATER

Our Household.

THE END OF IT ALL.

The proud man, fat with the fat of the land,
Dozed back in his silken chair.
Choice wines of the world, black men to com-
mand,
Rare curios, rich and rare;
Tall knights in armor on either hand—
Yet trouble was in the air.

The proud man dreamed of his young days,
when

He toiled, light-hearted, and sang all day;
He dreamed again of his gold, and of men
Grown old in his service and hungry and
gray.

Then his two hands tightened a time, and
then

They tightened, and tightened to stay.

Ah, me; this drunkenness, worse than wine;
This grasping with greedy hold.
Why, the poorest mau upon earth, I opine,
Is the man who has nothing but gold,
How better the love of man divine,
With God's love, manifold.

They came to the dead man back in his chair,
Dusk-liveried servants that come with a
light;

His eyes stood open with a frightened stare,
But his hands still tightened as a vise is
tight.

They opened his hands—nothing was there—
Nothing but bits of night.

—Joaquin Miller.

AN OLD-TIME CUSTOM.

WE have little sympathy with that class of people who are ever looking backward, who see little or no good or pleasantness in the present, and expect even less of the future, but who credit the past with all that is good, or worth having; for we belong to that hopeful, cheery class, that think the world is growing better, and believe that the present days are the best days; one who can see some good in everything, no matter how dark it may seem at first, yet there are some of the old customs and ways that "society" and conventionality are fast pushing to the wall, and which threaten soon to become almost obsolete, that we regret to see. One of these is the good old-time custom of "going visiting," or of spending the day with a friend.

We all can look back a score, or mayhap only a half score of years, before "city ways" began to make great inroads in village and country customs, and remember what a thrill of pleasure it caused to hear the announcement that Neighbor Smith and his wife were coming to-morrow to spend the day.

"Mother" and the eldest daughter did a little extra baking, a fat chicken or turkey was killed and dressed, and preparations made to have the entire day as free from work as possible, that they might fully enjoy the coming visit. On the morrow the work was done with all possible dispatch, the dinner planned and started, so that the daughter could finish it alone. Mother donned her second-best dress, and a white, or a black alpaca apron, and settled herself for a rest and "a real good time" when the neighbors should arrive.

And the daughter in the kitchen. How proud she was that she could be trusted to finish a "company dinner," and when all was "done to a turn," with what grace did she serve it, her pretty blushes attesting her pleasure at the compliments paid her housewifely skill.

No millionaire with their fine plate and varied courses ever enjoyed a dinner more than those old-time neighbors and friends, and no money could buy the loving service given by the daughter to her honored parents and their guests.

Then the good old-fashioned "dinner," to which were invited perhaps half a dozen families, when the table fairly groaned under its load of good things—such things as were raised on the farm—and all prepared by the deft and loving hands of mother and daughter, who talked, as they worked, of the pleasant time all would have while sharing their hospitality.

But the modern "tea," "reception" or "at home" have driven these further and further away, until now they are in most neighborhoods little else but a pleasant memory. Such things should not be, and we call a halt in the movement and enter a strong protest, also a strong plea for the return of the old-time custom.

We believe it to be the bounden duty of every parent to bring into the home all the refinement and culture possible. It makes no difference where that home is situated, or how small it is, the duty is incumbent just the same, and certain forms and cus-

toms must always be observed by all people in all localities, whether rich or poor, city or country bred. They are barriers and safeguards, which time and experience have proven to be right and necessary, yet the fashionable call, the society "tea" or "at home" are in most country neighborhoods out of place and out of keeping.

There are many whose hearts are full of hospitality, but who, unfortunately, have not so large a house as Neighbor A, or such fine furniture as Mrs. B, whose table service is far inferior to that of Mrs. C's, or whose purse cannot afford the oysters, the salads, the ices, fancy cakes and bonbons that Mrs. D had for her latest party. So, through a sense of false pride, they are deterred from entertaining, and perforce must then decline to accept invitations, since they cannot invite in return, so they stay at home, week in and week out, all winter, and winter after winter, and do not keep in touch with those about them, become sour and old before their time, misanthropic and narrow-minded. Their children, shut off from association with the best families, become acquainted with those less desirable, for youth must have company of some kind; or else, tiring of country life as they know it, seek their fortunes in the city, and probably fall victims to some of the snares and pitfalls laid for the unwary, and end their lives in disgrace or dishonor.

The winter is the farmer's time of all the year for rest, recreation and a "good time."

The "hard times" will prevent scores and hundreds of townspeople from entertaining in their old lavish way; but those whose home is on a farm need not hesitate on account of this. They have within their cellars and store-rooms an abundance to provide for all necessary creature comforts, if they do not let a false pride stand in their way, so why not return to the good old-fashioned way? Send word to some neighbor that you are coming to spend the day. Go, and have a good time, putting all care and business worries out of mind for the time, and you will be surprised to find how much good it has done you.

Ask some neighbor to bring the whole family and spend the evening. Prepare a real country supper, served in hospitable style, and all have a good time together.

Plan with your neighbors to all go together with well-filled baskets and spend an evening at each home in the neighborhood during the winter, for those gatherings when young and old all meet together are much more healthful, morally, than to let the young people go off to themselves night after night. Keep in touch with each other, and especially keep in touch with your own and your neighbors' children that are in their teens, and need the directing head and hand of an older one, whose heart is yet young enough to sympathize with their youthful desires, and when spring comes, with its hard work, you will be surprised to find that the "hard times" have lost their terror, and that instead of feeling six months older, as the calendar assures you you are, you will seem to yourself and friends to have grown younger, and you will surely be happier. Try it.

CLARA SENSEBAUGH EVERTS.

HOME TOPICS.

FURS AND WOOLENS.—The great secret of keeping furs and woollens free from moths consists in putting them away early in the spring, before the moth begins to fly and seek a place to lay her eggs. Before putting away furs and winter garments, they should be taken outdoors, thoroughly shaken and brushed, and then put away so securely that no moth can reach them. If furs are put into the box in which they were bought, see that there is no hole or crevice in it, and paste a strip of paper around where the box and cover meet, so as to close it perfectly. Furs or woollen garments may be kept securely in the paper sacks which come for that purpose, or in clean paper flour-sacks. These sacks, after being tied up tightly, should be hung in a closet. If this matter is attended to early, no tobacco, camphor or other preventive will be needed, but it will do no harm to scatter in some pyrethrum-powder, which is preferable to the others, as it has no disagreeable odor. If furs are put away with camphor, they are apt to come out next fall a shade or two lighter than they were when put away.

Before the slip-covers are put on upholstered chairs, take them outdoors and brush them thoroughly, then dust them well with pyrethrum-powder. Three years ago I had occasion to put away three large

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

rugs. I had a man dust them first, then I laid them on the grass in the yard and swept them thoroughly on both sides with a new broom; then I laid them one upon another, with crumbled moth-balls scattered thickly over each one before the next was put on, and over the top one, rolled the three rugs up together and slipped onto this roll a bag I had made of good, thick bed-ticking, and sewed up the end tightly. I had this roll carried to the attic and laid on the floor. It was left there seventeen months, and the rugs came out in as good condition as when put away.

HANG UP THE BROOM.—If you want your broom to last just as long again, hang it up. A broom that stands brush down soon gets out of shape, and if it is stood up on the handle it is forever tumbling down. I used to bore a hole through the handle and put in a string, but the string was almost sure to be twisted when you went to hang up the broom. Then I tried putting a screw-eye in the end of the handle; that was convenient, and worked all right for a time, but it would soon get loose and keep coming out. At last the "gude mon" invented a broom-hanger that works all right, by screwing two wire clothes-hooks into the molding at the top of the wainscoting in the kitchen, just far enough apart to hold the broom firmly when it was slipped between them, handle down.

TO RENOVATE PILLOWS.—If you have old pillows, the feathers of which seem to have lost their life, put them out on the grass in a steady, all-day rain. Then dry them in the sun, but keep turning them over and kneading them every little while, so that they will dry evenly. Do not leave them in the sun after they are dry, as it will draw the oil out of the feathers and

cause an unpleasant odor, but as soon as you think they are nearly dry, lay them on something or pin them to a clothes-line in the shade, shaking them up and turning them every little while. If they need new ticks, make them, and then rip a small opening in the old tick the size of the one in the new, and baste the sides of the two openings together; then you can empty the feathers from the old to the new tick without the annoyance of flying feathers and down, which would otherwise happen.

MAIDA McL.

CONTRIBUTED RECIPES.

GINGER BEER.—To make two gallons of beer, put into a large cooking-pot two gallons of water, into which put one quart of bran and a handful of hops tied up in a cloth. Let it come to a boil, then take out the bran and hops. Drain it well, so as to retain all the strength. When cool, add to the liquid

2 pounds of sugar,
3 tablespoonfuls of ginger,
1 tablespoonful of cream of tartar,
1 small cupful of yeast.

Keep in a warm place. The third day it can be put in a cool place and is ready for use.


V. A. J.

Calvary, Va.

SNOW-DRIFT CAKE.—

$\frac{3}{4}$ of a cupful of butter,
2 cupfuls of sugar,
1 cupful of sweet milk,
1 cupful of corn-starch,
2 cupfuls of flour.

Sift two teaspoonfuls of baking-powder with the flour and corn-starch. Beat the butter and eggs very light, and lastly add the whites of seven eggs beaten very light, flavor with lemon, one half teaspoonful. Bake in a moderate oven for forty minutes, or longer, if not done.



in that old flower pot and make it a thing of beauty. Plant a D. & C. Rose, and it will be a joy forever.

D. & C. Roses

grow and bloom indoors or out, in pot or garden—they are on their own roots. Our new Guide to Rose Culture will help you make a wise selection—tell you how roses and other flowers are grown at rose headquarters and how you can grow them equally well.

If you so request, we will send free, this valuable book and a sample copy of our floral magazine, *Success with Flowers*.

THE DINGEE & CONARD CO.,
West Grove, Pa.

Mention this paper.

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BREAKFAST—SUPPER.

"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided for our breakfast and supper a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."

Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in half-pound tins, by Grocers, labelled thus:

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Easily removed without breaking. Perfection Tins require no greasing. 10 styles, round, square and oblong. 2 layer tins by mail 30c. Circulars Free.

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200 Varieties, FREE!

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SPECIAL OFFER! To any lady sending us 12 cents for the Magazine and the above offer, and naming the variety in which she saw this advertisement, we will send free, in addition to all the above, one packet of the celebrated Eckford Sweet Peas, embracing the very newest and all named varieties, including Countess of Rindnor, Dorothy Tennant, Her Majesty, Inessa, Lemon Queen, Lottie Eckford, Waverly, Mrs. Snakey, etc. Sweet peas are the most popular and fashionable bouquet flowers now cultivated, and the Eckford Varieties which we offer are the largest, finest and most celebrated known. They grow to a height of 6 feet, and produce for three months a continuous profusion of fragrant blooms of the most brilliant coloring. This packet of seeds is alone worth the price charged for the entire combination.

ANOTHER GREAT OFFER! five Cents (our regular subscription price) we will send *The Ladies' World* for One Year, together with our magnificent Collection of Choice Flower Seeds above described, likewise one packet of the extensively advertised and justly celebrated Eckford Sweet Peas. Address: E. H. MOORE & CO., 27 Park Place, New York.

A FINE ROSE and packet of Beautiful Flower Seeds, 100 kinds, with Catalog, only 10c. 3 Fine Roses, 25c.; 7, 50c.; 16, \$1.00. Choice varieties, all labeled. **ALFRED F. CONARD, Box 11 West Grove, Pa.**



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Heavy Sterling Plate set with Genuine Turquoise, 15c. or two for 25c. Our '95 Cat. free, post paid. **CURTIN JEWELRY CO., Mrs., Attleboro, Mass.**

I GIVE BOOKS AWAY.

I have just bought an Immense Lot of Books at a sacrifice and I propose to give them all away in order to introduce my celebrated magazine. You can have 10 Books Free, as follows: Manual of Etiquette, Volume of Useful Information, Book of Unique Stories, Book of War Stories, Famous Comic Book, Secrets for Women Only, Beautiful Female Slaves of to-day, (an exciting book), the greatest Magic Book, The Fank's Famous Puzzle Book and Book of Popular Songs. All postpaid in 1 Bundle, free if you send 10 cents to pay for a 3-months' trial subscription to my magazine. Send it once and you will be happy.

POPULAR MONTHLY, 7 Water Street, Boston, Mass.

BE YOUR OWN DRESSMAKER.

Any FOUR Patterns, and Farm and Fireside one year, 50 cents.

These patterns retail in fashion bazaars and stores for twenty-five to forty cents each, but in order to increase the demand for our paper among strangers, and to make it more valuable than ever to our old friends, we offer them to the lady readers of our paper for the remarkably low price of only 10 Cents Each. Postage one cent extra.

The patterns are all of the very latest New York styles, and are unequalled for style, accuracy of fit, simplicity and economy. For twenty-five years these patterns have been used the country over. Full descriptions and directions—as the number of yards of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment

to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a separate pattern for every single piece of the dress. Your order will be filled the same day it is received.

You can order any of the patterns which have been offered in the back numbers.

For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give BREAST measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. To get BUST and BREAST measure, put the tape measure ALL of the way around the body, over the dress close under the arms.

Price of each pattern, 10 cents.

Postage one cent extra on EACH pattern, except on Wrappers and Tea Gowns, 2 cents extra.

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio.



No. 6359.—LADIES' COLLARS.
Cut in one size.

Regular price, 30c.; all three to you for 11c.



No. 6393.—LADIES' JACKET.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6392.—LADIES' CAPE.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6362.—LADIES' TEA-GOWN.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. Regular price, 35 cents; price to you, 12 cents.



No. 6349.—LADIES' SHIRT-WAIST.

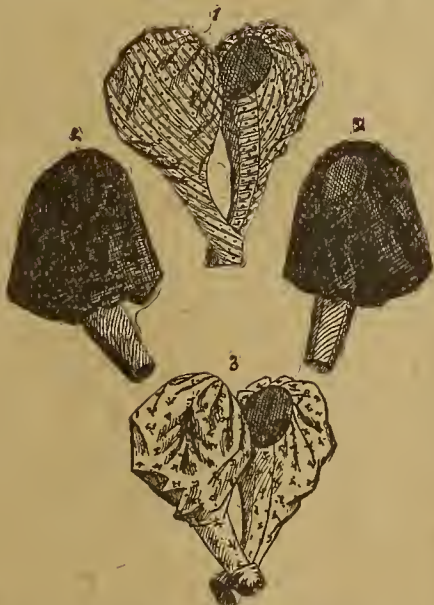
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

This yoke is lined with thin cambric to give proper firmness and avoid discoloration by perspiration. The full gathered fronts and back are joined to the lower edges of yoke, a stylish box-plait running the whole length of center front. The closing can be invisible under the plait as here shown, or with studs, or buttons, and buttonholes worked in center of plait. Gathers at the waist line complete the stylish adjustment, a belt finishing the waist. Full, stylish sleeves stamp the design in latest mode, the stiff laundered cuffs closing at the back with studs or buttons. The rolling collar is completed with a band, and can be made adjustable, several changes of collar being desirable with one waist in the mode. From two and seven eighths yards to three and one half yards of material are required, owing to the size.



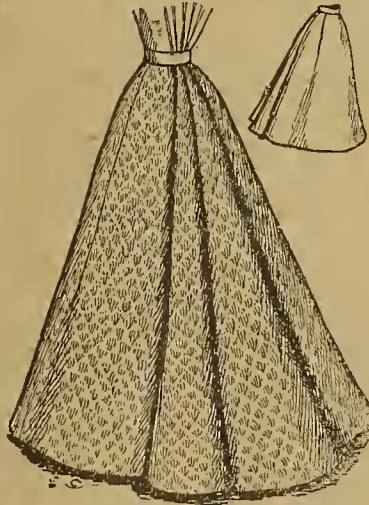
No. 6356.—LADIES' YOKE WAIST.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6360.—LADIES' SLEEVES.

Sizes, 32, 36 and 40 inches bust measure. Regular price, 30c.; all three to you for 11c.



No. 6299.—LADIES' ORGAN-PIPE SKIRT.

Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure. Regular price, 30 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

I sent for one of your patterns and tried it, and was so well pleased with it that I inclose money for two more.

Mrs. F. SHILEY, Capon Bridge, W. Va.

NOTICE

We have sent out so many thousands of these cut-paper patterns that it seems as though every lady reader and many of her neighbors have ordered them. Since the patterns are so well known and have given such universal satisfaction, we thought it best to omit the descriptions of each pattern here, and instead show a greater variety; then we send a full description with each pattern, so that any lady can cut out a stylish garment and sew it together with a certainty that she will get a splendid fit. If there are any of our lady readers who have not tested the patterns, we ask that they give them one trial. Every pattern warranted to be perfect. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.



No. 6323.—PAQUIN SKIRT.

Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure. Regular price, 30 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6348.—LADIES' WAIST.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6323.—PAQUIN SKIRT. 11 cents.

No. 6311.—GIRL'S FROCK.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26 and 28 inches breast measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6332.—LADIES' HOUSE GOWN, OR WRAPPER.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. Regular price, 35 cents; price to you, 12 cents.



No. 6287.—MEN'S WORKING-SHIRT.

Sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 inches breast measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

Do not fail to give size wanted.

Do not fail to give size wanted.

DO NOT FAIL TO GIVE SIZE WANTED.

Do not fail to give size wanted.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

"PATIENT WAITING FOR CHRIST."

Shine forth, eternal morning!
Glad day of peace, draw nigh!
Hasten thy radiant dawning,
Athwart our darkened sky!
Oh, may earth's day of groaning
And bondage soon be o'er,
The sons of men cease mourning
Like waves upon the shore.

Give joy for time of weeping,
Light for this day of gloom;
Awake the saints now sleeping
Within the silent tomb!
No more let night and sorrow
And sin triumphant reign!
Oh, haste the glad to-morrow,
When Christ shall come again!

Our hearts are growing weary
With watching, waiting long;
The night of time is dreary,
Come, teach us the new song!
Oh, hasten, Lord, come quickly,
Thy banner be unfurled;
Come thou and reign supremely
Throughout thy ransomed world.

A PECULIAR DISEASE.

THAT is a most peculiar disease, "Morbus Sabbaticus." It has baffled the skill of many a wife and mother. It is thus learnedly discussed: "Morbus Sabbaticus, or Sunday sickness, is a disease peculiar to church members. The attack comes on suddenly every Sunday; no symptoms are felt on Saturday night; the patient sleeps well and wakes feeling well; eats a hearty breakfast; but about church-time the attack comes on, and continues until services are over for the morning. Then the patient feels easy, and eats a hearty dinner. In the afternoon he feels much better, and is able to take a walk, talk about politics, and read the Sunday papers; he eats a hearty supper, but about church-time he has another attack and stays at home. He retires early, sleeps well, wakes up Monday morning refreshed and able to go to work, and does not have any symptoms of the disease until the following Sunday.

The peculiar features are as follows: 1. It attacks members of the church. 2. It never makes its appearance except on the Sabbath. 3. The symptoms vary, but it never interferes with the sleep or appetite. 4. It never lasts more than twenty-four hours. 5. It generally attacks the head of the family. 6. No physician is ever called. 7. It always proves fatal in the end—to the soul. 8. No remedy is known for it except prayer. 9. Religion is the only antidote. 10. It is becoming fearfully prevalent."—*The Mid-Continent.*

WHAT TO READ.

If you are down with the blues, read the twenty-seventh psalm. If there is a chilly sensation about the heart, read the third chapter of Revelation.

If you don't know where to look for the month's rent, read the thirty-seventh Psalm.

If the stovepipe has fallen down and the cook gone off in a pet, put up the pipe, wash your hands, and read the third chapter of James.

If you find yourself losing confidence in men, read the thirteenth chapter of I. Corinthians.

If people pelt you with hard words, read the fifteenth chapter of John.

If you are getting discouraged about your work, read Psalm cxxvi. and Galatians vi. 7-9.

If you are all out of sorts, read the twelfth chapter of Hebrews.—*The Bible Reader.*

THE DRUNKARD'S BARGAIN.

There's my money—give me drink!
There's my clothing, and food and fire of
my wife and children—give me drink!
There's the education of the family and
the peace of the house—give me drink!
There's the rent I have robbed from my
landlord, fees I have robbed from my
schoolmaster, and innumerable articles I
have robbed from the shopkeeper—give
me drink! Pour me out drink, and yet
more; I will pay for it! There's my health
of body and peace of mind; there's my
character as a man and profession as a
Christian; I give up all—give me drink!
More yet have I to give! There's my
heavenly inheritance, and the eternal
friendship of the redeemed; there is all
hope of salvation! I give up my Savior!
I give up my God! I give up all that is
great, good and glorious in the universe;
I resign all forever, that I may be drunk.

EYES.

It happened not long ago to a friend of mine, who had been very short-sighted all her life, to have her eyes "measured" for glasses, which have given her a new sense of the wonderful world she lives in. The first time she went to church after the new glasses had revealed to her the manner of place the world was, she felt embarrassed at seeing so much and so clearly. Walking through the aisle to her pew, she beheld for the first time, though she had heard him preach for years, the clear-cut, keen and benevolent face of her pastor. She saw the choir, too, a fine-looking set of young people, and observed with pleasure the thoughtful faces of the elders and deacons.

The new glasses had introduced her to a new world, simply by revealing to her what had always been there. No change had been wrought in the world, and her environment remained what it had long been. But all was altered for her. Revelation had been granted, and she could almost say, "Whereas I was blind, now I see!"

Something like this happens when one who has never realized the loving kindness of God suddenly awakens to a sense of it. The spirit's vision was dim. Enlightenment being granted, there came a new comprehension of God's meanings, a new insight, a new and wonderful charm about all that surrounded the life. The groping step was changed to wing-like fleetness. The blind saw. But God's dear love had been there all the while.—*Christian Leader.*

RESPECTABLE SINS.

Beware of respectable sins. Not that any sin, however garishly arrayed or socially dignified, is in itself respectable, but that some sins are so countenanced by certain classes that they are held to be respectable. Mrs. Browning spoke truly when, with epigrammatic force she said, "The devil is most devilish when respectable," because he is then most dangerous. His seeming respectability throws unwary souls off their guard, and beguiles them by begetting the thought that their objections to certain profitable or delightful courses of conduct are based, not on Scripture rationally interpreted, but on squeamish or morbid consciousness. Hence, for example, when young men see social honors paid to rich financiers, whose overflowing coffers were filled by means of transactions which involved lying, deception and speculative trickery, they are disposed to think such dishonest practices are not so bad as they are taught to believe. So when members of churches indulge in some questionable or perhaps even ungodly practices, they throw the cloak of their respectability over deeds which are in themselves injurious both to the moral and spiritual life. Thus they enable the devil to do his most devilish work of luring young and feeble souls into the pit of destruction. How needful, then, is the precaution, "Beware of respectable sins."—*Canadian Churchman.*

NEVER ALONE.

Our Lord has promised to be always present wherever two or three meet together to pray; but he is also present when they work. One night, when their Master was absent, the disciples went out fishing, but they caught nothing. The next morning, when Jesus came to them and told them to put down a net, they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes. In life we are not alone, and the best companion we can have is Jesus Christ.—*The Colporter.*

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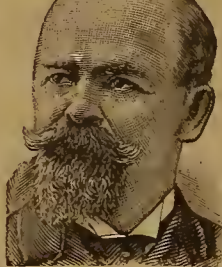
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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Mulching Potatoes with Straw.—J. W. B., Cora, Montana. Plant the potatoes in the usual way. Before the plants appear above the ground, cover it with wheat straw to the depth of six to ten inches.

Cow-peas.—H. K., Mayview, Kansas, and others. Cow-peas may be obtained from the seedsmen who advertise in this paper. South of the fortieth degree of latitude the cow-pea is a great soil-renovator. The common field-peas are better for northern latitudes.

Alkali Land.—K. P., Forsyth, Montana, writes: "Please tell me what to do with alkali ground. It bakes hard and will not raise anything."

REPLY:—Usually these barren spots are low places where water has collected and evaporated, leaving the alkali behind. If these low places can be ditched so that the water will run off readily, they can be reclaimed by repeated flooding with water, which will dissolve the alkali and carry it off.

Lime for Celery.—F. B., Ohio, writes: "Would lime be good for celery, and if so, in what proportion when used in connection with stable manure?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—When the soil is well filled with organic matter from previous heavy annual dressings of stable manure, we may sometimes leave out the regular application and give a dressing of lime. This is a general rule for all crops. I shall for once do so with my onion-patch this year. But usually I have not a very high opinion of lime as a fertilizer, or even stimulant. I never use it in combination with stable manure.

Orchard-grass.—J. R. F., Morgantown, W. Va. Orchard-grass thrives best on good, deep loam soils. It is not adapted to dry, stony, or to heavy, wet lands. On suitable soils it does well in open timber or partial shade. Sow the seed early in the spring, broadcasting it on winter wheat. If conditions permit, follow with a harrow and roller. Sow two bushels—28 pounds—to the acre, if sown alone. It is well to sow common red clover or alsike clover with it, if it is intended for hay or pasture. Cut it in early bloom for hay. If a crop of seed is wanted, cut it with binder, setting the machine to leave a high stubble. Seed can be procured from any seedsmen.

Crops for Orchards.—M. E. J., W. Va., writes: "What is the best crop to cultivate in an orchard or vineyard? What kind of beans and peas will pay best as a crop, and come off as soon as hogs should go into the orchard? How much fertilizer should be used for beans on thin land?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—The best crop to raise in an orchard or vineyard, of course, is the fruit of the trees and vines. Concentrate your efforts upon the production of good fruit, and plenty of it, for this will usually pay you better than any crop you might raise on the land under the trees. You can sow crimson clover, however, in early fall, and cut or pasture off the new growth in early spring. It is a quick-growing crop. It gives protection to the soil during winter, but it draws quite heavily on the mineral plant-foods in the soil, and restitution should be made for the drain by liberal applications of potash and bone, or wood ashes, etc. If you want to grow a crop for money, however, I think that some of the first garden peas, such as Alaska, First and Best, etc., might be planted with confidence. They come off in June. Beans mature too late, if the orchard is to be used as hog pasture. As to fertilizers for peas and beans, the remarks on crimson clover will apply. These plants can draw on the atmosphere for their nitrogen supply, but you will have to furnish the mineral plant-foods. Use half a ton, more or less, of unleached wood ashes, with a little bone or superphosphate, or other things in proportion.

Potato Questions.—G. W. T., Tex., writes: "What is the cause of scabby potatoes, and is there a remedy? Will potatoes that are sprouted to a considerable extent be suitable for seed?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—The cause of scab in potatoes is a fungus. The remedy consists in avoiding the infection. Scabby potatoes should not be used for planting, unless disinfected by soaking for ninety minutes in a solution of corrosive sublimate, two ounces to fifteen gallons of water. Practice strict rotation, and use commercial fertilizers rather than stable manure, that may possibly be infected with the scab. Applications of lime, ashes and other substances of an alkaline nature always increase the tendency to scab. Potatoes that have once sprouted have already lost a portion of their vitality, and are really unfit for seed.—J. A. A., Nebraska, wants to cut the eyes out of the potatoes, as they are used for the table, and keep them for planting. I think he will find that he cannot eat his cake and keep it, too, although I have heard of people eating the potatoes and saving the peelings for planting. There is nothing to be gained by the method suggested. The simplest and safest way is to save the whole potatoes for seed, and if you must economize, cut them to single eye, and plant an eye in a place, making up by extra preparation of the soil and high culture for the small size of the seed pieces. But by all means have the pieces containing the single eyes as large as possible. The yield is always greatly influenced by the size of the pieces planted.

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VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio. NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

A Sick Heifer.—W. H. H., Calhoun, Wis. Your heifer will die, or probably has died before this.

Periodical Ophthalmia.—S. E., Stone-wall, Ark. Your horse suffers from periodical ophthalmia. Incurable; terminates in blindness.

Sick Pigs.—W. G., Girard Manor, Pa. I am unable to comply with your request, because I do not know what ails your pigs. According to your description, it may be trichinosis, it may be rhabdosis, and it may be something else.

A Coughing Cow.—R. D., Pennsville, Ohio. The coughing of your cow is probably caused by feeding dusty hay. I have to conclude this, because you say that she is in good condition, otherwise perfectly healthy, and does not cough when in pasture.

Lice on a Cow.—W. R., Concord, N. H. If the weather will permit, give your cow a good wash with a five-per-cent solution of creoline (Pearson's) in water, feed well, and curry often, and then send to pasture as soon as there is sufficient grass.

Probably Balky.—E. B. H., Dow City, Iowa. Your horse, I admit, acts very strangely, and I would publish your communication if space would permit. Still, I think your horse is balky, and his strange actions are a scheme to avoid work. At any rate, there are cases in which balky horses act in a similar way.

Habitual Abortion.—E. A., Raymond, Cal. If your mare has aborted three years in succession, each time at the same period of gestation, there is very little prospect that she will ever carry her colt to full development. You can do nothing to prevent abortion. My advice would be not to breed such a mare.

Warts on Teats of Cows.—C. W. H., Stratton, Neb. Warts on cows' teats are best removed when the cows are dry. If you are very anxious to get rid of them, cut them off with scissors, and touch (cauterize) the wound with lunar caustic; but often the wound, although small, is just as troublesome to milking as the wart itself.

Quarter-cracks.—W. R. G., Marlborough on Hudson, N. Y. What you call cracks, or quarter-cracks, according to your description, may be something worse; that is, quitters or fistules leading to the lateral cartilages of the hoof. The cause, very likely, consists in severe caking. It will be best and cheapest, because saving time, to have the animal treated by a competent veterinarian.

Bitter Milk.—J. B. C., Wilmette, Illinois. Bitter milk is either due to bitter or spoiled food, such as spoiled and frozen root crops, cabbage and turnip leaves, etc., diseased and frozen potatoes, even brewing grains or distillery slops, spoiled oil-cake, pea-straw, etc., or else the milk has become infected after milking. The cow herself is not at fault. Ascertain the cause and remove the same.

Lice on a Colt.—G. H., Stuart, Neb. If it is yet too cold to apply a wash to your colt, you may rub in a little gray mercurial ointment in a line along the crest and back from poll to tail, while parting the hair. The ointment is best applied with a finger, but only a little—not more than a couple of drams—should be used. At the same time feed well, plenty of oats, and groom quite often and thoroughly at least once or twice a day.

A Lame Colt.—Th. W., Wheaton, Indiana. You surely cannot expect me to make a diagnosis of, and to prescribe for, the lameness of your colt upon the simple statement that the same has been lame in one fore leg for one and one half years, or since it was six months old. Still, it is not very material, because a lameness of so long standing is very likely incurable, no matter where the seat, etc., may be.

Did Not Die of Rabies.—E. M., Darien, Ga. Your dog did not die of rabies, but either in consequence of his injuries or wounds, or by being poisoned with carbolic acid. If the dog supposed to be mad did not show any symptoms, the diagnosis, probably, was erroneous; and if the same did not die within a week after biting your dog and horse, the same, surely, was not affected with that disease. Nitrate of silver is a good enough caustic where the wounds are comparatively small. I cannot afford to answer inquiries by mail without pay. I soon would not be able to do anything else.

Probably Measles.—H. H., Euphemia, O. If your hogs have had access to human excrements, the same, very likely, are measly; that is, harbor large numbers of symptoms—(Cysticercus cellulosae) the larvae of the human tapeworm (Taenia solinus). If they have not had access to human excrements, the disease may be trichinosis. The symptoms of both diseases very closely correspond to your description. Do not expect an immediate answer by mail for a two-cent stamp. You must either send the customary fee of one dollar, or else consult a veterinarian, if you want immediate advice.

Galactorrhoea.—F. H. C., Portsmouth, New Hampshire. What you complain of, galactorrhoea, or a flowing off of the milk out of the teats of your cow, is something that is not easily remedied. Try frequent milking, so as to prevent too much pressure of the milk upon the opening in the teats. If this does not have the desired effect, apply astringents to the openings in the teats; for instance, a decoction of oak bark, a solution of tannic acid, or a solution of alum. It has also been tried to stop the flow of the milk by slipping a rubber ring over the end of the teat, but this has not proved very successful, and has caused other damage.

Sick Pigs.—S. N. W., Erie, Ind. That your pigs breathe through their nostrils, it seems to me, is quite natural, but that they breathe hard, as if their head is stopped up, is abnormal. Further than this, you state that the pigs have a slight cough. These are the only symptoms of disease you give. They only indicate that some morbid changes exist in the respiratory passages, and nothing more. Therefore, it is impossible to decide whether

these changes consist in a deformation of the bones, caused by rickets, in a catarrhal inflammation of the mucous membranes, or in something else. If their food consists (exclusively) of beech-mast and kitchen slop, as you state it does, and if the latter, as a rule, is very sour, a deformation of the bones, caused by rickets, is very probable. If it is not too late, a change of food constitutes the remedy.

Vitiated Appetite.—H. A., East Trumbull, Ohio. The vitiated appetite of your cow for uncommon, indigestible, and even nauseating things, is caused by an improper diet. If she is not too far gone, a thorough change of food will effect a cure. Good clover hay, every day a good bran mash, with the addition of a little salt, are the things needed. If such a change of food does not cure her, a subcutaneous injection with a solution of two grains of muriate of apomorphine in distilled water, applied once a day for three days in succession, will effect a change. If such vitiated appetite is indulged in too long, or rather, if the causes are acting too long a time, osteomalacia and fragility of the bones are often the consequence.

Warbles.—E. G. M., Grass Valley, Oregon, O. S., Cleves, O., and H. L., Bellaire, O. Your cows have so-called warble; that is, the larvae of Hypoderma, or Oestrus, bovis in the subcutaneous tissue. Press out the larvae, and be sure to step on every one that is pressed out, so that it may be killed, and not change into pupa, and later into a grub-fly. If the small, round hole in the warble is not large enough, it may be enlarged with a penknife. The prevention consists either in keeping the cattle in the stable when the flies swarm, or in keeping them in a very good and sleek condition when in pasture. Thin blankets of cotton muslin will also protect the cattle. The flies swarm on hot and sultry summer days.

An Old Sore.—N. J., Iowa Park, Texas. If the old sore above the front knee of your horse, which was produced three months ago by cutting with a barbed wire, does not heal, but causes much swelling, and produced so-called proud flesh (luxuriant granulation), dress the same twice a day with iodoform and absorbent cotton, and if possible, apply a good bandage. If the so-called proud flesh is very much protruding, it may be necessary to make first one application of some caustic; for instance, of finely powdered sulphate of copper.—The wart on the eyelid is best removed by carefully painting the same with a concentrated solution of corrosive sublimate in absolute, or nearly absolute, alcohol. It is best applied with a camel's-hair brush, and applications must be made, say every two or three minutes, until the wart has become covered with a good layer of corrosive sublimate. Of course, care must be had to keep it out of the eye. After a few days a repetition may be made.

Many Questions.—G. R. C., Tellahoma, Tenn. 1. Prepare your barren sow for the butcher. If a sow is thirteen months old, and never has been in heat, she is good for pork, and for nothing else. 2. As to your failing cow, if you cannot tell me anything except that she is failing and a dainty eater, I cannot possibly tell you what ails her. There are too many possibilities. It is not the nature of cows to devour the afterbirth, and they should not be permitted to do it if they show such a morbid appetite. 3. What you call "cracked heels" is probably so-called scratches. The same are prevented by taking proper care of the horse's feet and legs, and by cleaning them whenever they have become muddy, and by preventing the horses standing in filth and manure. A healing will be effected by liberal applications, three times a day, of a mixture composed of liquid subacetate of lead, one part, and sweet-oil, three parts. The other ailments of your horse are probably of the nature of a digestive disorder. Drenching horses with oil should be strictly avoided, because it is exceedingly dangerous. Horses do not like to swallow it, and therefore it often goes wrong, and produces foreign body pneumonia. Still, it may be that your horse is troubled with so-called gravel (calcareous deposits), and in consequence suffers from chronic inflammation of the bladder. Scratches, or grease-heal, is not a constitutional disease, but merely more or less inveterate local affections. 4. Your calves probably consumed unsuitable food, or food with a tendency to ferment, and in consequence died of tympanitis, or bloating. 5. Murrain is a term applied to a variety of ailments, and not a definite disease. It is a kind of makeshift term, applied where the nature of the disease is unknown, for want of a proper or correct diagnosis.

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Our Miscellany.

BERMUDA farms bear three successive crops in one year.

A DEMAND has arisen in New England for the restoration of the half-cent to the national coinage.

A CHINESE sect believes that women by embracing vegetarianism will become men on the judgment day.

WILL somebody come around and tell a reason why a woman with a waterproof on always wears her best stockings?—*Philadelphia Record*.

RECENTLY a bride in New Zealand was married in a dress-reform costume, the salient garment of which was a pair of knickerbockers.

A LAW in Norway prohibits any one from spending more than five cents for liquor at one visit to a public house, and alcoholic stimulants are supplied only to sober persons.

THE tobacco raised in Beloochistan is exceedingly strong, and cannot be smoked by any but the most vigorous white men. The natives do not appear to be affected by it, and children of ten and twelve years puff away all day without any discomfort.

THIS country imports through the custom-house annually nearly \$7,000,000 worth of machine-made European lace and less than \$700,000 worth of hand-made lace. Much of the former is doubtless sold as hand-made, and a good deal of both leaks in by devious ways. Much is imported by returning travelers as an article of personal wear long in use, and thus it escapes duty.

DR. DELBRUCH, of the Berlin brewers' school, declares, after a study of American breweries, that their product is excellent and their methods worthy of like praise. He found American beer brewed of Indian corn to be very good, though inferior to that made from barley. He thought it worth while to experiment in Germany with malt made from corn, and he thinks the industry worth attention.

BY the time Alaska is ready for settlement, its resources will probably be much improved, which is far better than to have a great wave of immigration to destroy them. The Siberian reindeer taken to Alaska are increasing rapidly, and this domesticated animal will be an invaluable help to settlers. If the waste of fish and game along the coast could be stopped, the big territory would be in excellent shape.

IT is now possible to send an express package to almost any place in the United States above the dignity of a cross-roads hamlet, and such is the comity prevailing among the companies that almost any one of them will accept packages to be sent to places within the exclusive territory of another. The business has grown enormously within twenty years, and it is no more a mystery to the bulk of the people.

BOY'S COMPOSITION ON CHICKENS.

Chickens is the result of a hen sticking to one idea long enough to accomplish something. They all look alike when they are first born, but by and by you wouldn't know they ever belonged to the same set. Their ma is their natural parent and protector. Spring chickens is the best because they cost the most. Pa bought a spring chicken at a bargain counter in a meat-shop the other day, and with coal at \$7.75 cents a ton ma figured that we did not make expenses that day trying to cook that spring chicken done. Pa says you can never tell, until too late, what spring the chicken first had pin-feathers. Ma says what pa don't know about a good many things would supply a lot of folks with college educations. He said that if she had given those thirteen eggs that she used for angel's food to some hen with good intentions and a hatch-way we could be living on the top floor this fall. I am of the same opinion as pa now. Last spring I thought ma was O. K. George Bezan says they are going to set their clocks and raise waterberries. He says their head ticks, and he has that run down feeling in the morning. Chris Columbus made an egg stand on its head, which had never been done before. Pa said there was money in hens, and he was going into the chicken business when the country when Democratic. A man can't do a big business unless he is protected. Chickens can swallow their food whole, and they is to be envied.—*Grand Rapids Review*.

RAILROAD INTO LAPLAND.

Last August, King Oscar of Sweden opened the last section of the state railroad, which now, from Malmoe, opposite Copenhagen, to the Gellivara iron-mines, within the Arctic region of Lapland, is open for traffic. The road runs almost straight north and south, and is 1,199 miles in length; a little more than the distance from Berlin to Rome.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

JAPAN A RICH NATION.

There is a general belief that Japan is a poor country; that a long war would exhaust her more than many other countries—China, for example. Probably the idea originated in the extreme lowness of prices in Japan; but that is no criterion. Living is cheaper in London than in Hong Kong, but nobody calls London a poorer place on that account.

As a matter of fact, Japan is now rapidly becoming self-supporting, and therefore need have little fear of exhaustion. She has money enough for all requirements; her taxation is very high, yet her revenue leaves a surplus over expenditures every year, her imports almost balance her exports, and both are increasing yearly, and are not suffering in the least from the war. When the accumulated surplus (about 40,000,000 yen) had all been voted away in war expenses, a war loan of 30,000,000 yen, and now another of 150,000,000, have been readily raised without causing any appreciable dislocation. Government bonds were about six per cent premium in the beginning of the year, when there was a distinct boom in the market; now, when the war has gone on three months, the surplus been spent and the loans been raised, they are still at two per cent premium, with an upward tendency.

The country is not poor in any sense of the word. The land, though of hardly larger extent than England, and in some parts too mountainous for cultivation, supports a population of 40,000,000, and produces a rice crop which is usually larger than the whole grain crop of Russia.—*London Times*.

AS A MATTER OF COMPANIONSHIP.

"All who want to go to heaven," said the minister, "will please stand up." Apparently the entire congregation stood up. "Please sit down. All who don't want to go to heaven will now stand up."

One man rose to his feet. Leaning forward and pointing his finger at him, the good pastor spoke in tones quivering with intense feeling:

"There is one person in this vast audience, I am sorry to say—and yet only one, I rejoice to say—who does not want to go to heaven! Do you know, sir," he continued, addressing the standing figure in slow, impressive manner, "that you have placed yourself in an attitude of defiance to the heavenly powers? Do you know you have made a jest and mockery of sacred things, and under the thin disguise of independence have outraged the feelings of friends and neighbors, who would be glad to regard you as a brother?"

"Yes, sir," replied the man meekly. "I'll sit down if you will."

HAD THE LAST WORD, THOUGH.

A good old Methodist lady attending services in a suburban Episcopal church became happy under the preaching of the Word and ejaculated:

"Glory!"

She was admonished to keep quiet by two of the brethren, and nodded assent; but soon becoming forgetful, responded:

"Halleluiah!"

The brethren again called her attention to the disturbance, and told her that if she did not keep quiet they would be compelled to remove her. The sermon proceeded, and the old lady, becoming very happy and forgetful of her surroundings, shouted out:

"Glory to God!"

This was too much for the brethren, and they tried to lead her out; but she refused to walk, so they carried her. On the way she said:

"I am honored above my Master, for while he was carried by an ass, I am carried by two."—*Philadelphia Record*.

CHINESE RULES OF WAR.

The Chinese "Rules for War," as carried out by the imperial armies now in the field against Japan, are three thousand years old. They must be very nice rules, if we may judge of them from the specimens given by an English writer who has seen them. Perhaps the nicest of them, for the assailed party, is the one that goes thus:

"Spread into the camp of the enemy voluptuous musical airs, so as to soften his heart."

This military maneuver was held in especial esteem three thousand years ago by its author, Sun-tse, who is still regarded as the highest authority upon the art of war.—*New York Sun*.

THE STUDY OF NATURE

Is a never-failing source of profit, and its opportunities are boundless. But a teacher—an able, interesting and enthusiastic teacher—is needed. A teacher who will not load us down with cold facts and big words, but one who will satisfy our curiosity by telling us what we want to know in a way we like to hear it, and by showing us the pictures we want to see. "Beauties and Wonders of Land and Sea" is just such a teacher. It opens new fields of knowledge. It trains the faculty of observation. The social life, habits and means of existence of living creatures are made known to us. We learn the secrets of the animals, birds, reptiles and insects which dwell in the fields, woods and streams round about us, as well as natives of the far corners of the earth and of the briny deep. See offer on another page.

PEOPLE PER ACRE IN LONDON.

The average density of population per acre in London is 57.7, and the average death-rate is 23.2 per 1,000. In some parts of Whitechapel, in the tenement region, the density of population is about 3,000 per acre, and the death-rate is 41.4 per 1,000.

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Our Farm.

NOVELTIES.

SEEDSMEN and plant dealers are sending out their usual attractive spring catalogues. Each dealer is offering some specialties or novelties. These usually are described by such ingeniously worded descriptions that the unwary are almost led to suppose that they are compelled to have the novelties if they wish to compete in production with others.

No doubt but some of these novelties may prove worthy, but if they are an improvement over anything we already have, it will be only a slight improvement, for nature's variations at any one stage are very small. It has taken hundreds of years to bring the potato to its present stage of development. This is also true of cabbage, corn, radishes, beans, apples, pears, grapes, etc., although in the past careful, painstaking experimenters have been at work seeking variation and improvement in these varieties. The best we have to-day can be only a slight improvement on the best of what we had last year.

It is only after repeated and extensive trial over a considerable territory that the merits of a variety can be determined. In this testing, nine tenths, and in many cases ninety-nine one hundredths, of the novelties are discarded because not as valuable as the standard varieties we already have.

I have observed that the growers who plant almost exclusively of standard varieties and invest very sparingly in novelties are the ones who reap the profits, and that the men who largely invest money and labor in novelties are the ones doomed to disappointments and failures. It is better to be guided by the comparative merits of varieties than by the descriptions usually given. A long list of testimonials recommending a variety do not signify anything. The question always should be, who says it? Has he made the necessary comparisons, and is he qualified by training and wide observation to make them? Is he thoroughly acquainted with the conditions by which these much-lauded specimens or results were produced? I do not wish to be understood as opposing the introduction of novelties, for through them all advancement must come, but the purchaser has at least a right to demand that the introducer have them thoroughly tested before stating that they are of superior merit.

Our experiment stations are ready and willing to do the necessary testing, and whilst they cannot always tell whether a variety will become a standard, they will at least save those who study their reports from investing in utterly worthless varieties.

As the term "standard varieties" is so often used by agricultural writers, some may inquire what are standard varieties? As generally understood, it means those varieties that will over a wide territory, with average conditions, produce the best average results. The Crescent strawberry, Leaning corn and Baldwin apple have met these requirements, and are therefore classed as standards. There is in each class of fruits, vegetables and grains a number of standards especially adapted to certain localities, and we say God-speed the man who conscientiously tries to add to their number, but what shall we say of the man who induces the public to invest money, labor and time in the novelties that are dropped as soon as tested?

There are many who have at some time been willing to plant or test novelties, but at the very outset they were met by such disgusting disappointments that they ever afterward vote all new things as frauds, and all who continue testing them as cranks. Thus the indiscriminate introduction of novelties does much to discourage testing, and a variety of actual merit is much longer in establishing that it is a standard than it would otherwise be.

THEO. F. LONGENECKER.

Montgomery county, Ohio.

SOWING CORN.

Any one having a very stumpy piece of new ground can save a great deal of labor by sowing corn on it. We had about two acres in last year, and it was nearly as good as that we had planted in rows. The corn in this country was not very good anywhere, but our piece of sowed corn was about as good as that planted. We plowed the ground the best we could, sowed the corn, and harrowed it over a couple of times, and then let it go.

Iowa.

WEBSTER B. HENRY.

FLOWERS IN THE HOME.

What is more ornamental in the home than a nice collection of house-plants? The home without flowers to lighten the gloom of cheerless winter days, is about as incomplete as the home without any books or papers to furnish the mind with intellectual food. Flowers possess the peculiar trait of transmitting their own delicacy of nature to those who habitually care for them. The boy or girl who cultivates a love for flowers is not likely to acquire many vices. So, too, the man who delights in the rare beauty and delicate fragrance of flowers is not likely to prove a rogue or a scoundrel. The manners, habits and characters found in a neighborhood destitute of flowers are rude and uncouth, as compared with those where flowers are found cultivated in every home. Let one family begin the cultivation of choice and rare plants, distribute slips and cuttings among the neighbors, and a revolution in tastes, characters and dispositions is certain to follow.

In traveling about in rural districts, we have noticed the prevailing tastes in favor of flowers in one place and the utter absence of such tastes in another, and without any exceptions the homes, home surroundings and moral dispositions differed widely. Some may say the flowers are due to the difference of the people, rather than that the differences of the people are due to the flowers. This is probably true in many instances, but we have other evidences of the refining influence of flowers. Who has not read of the criminal whose reformation was due to a lovely flower? Whose heart is not touched by the sight of the flower his mother most cherished? What false lover has not felt a pang of conscience at the sight of the flower given him by a confiding maiden at parting?

It has long been an established fact that parks and gardens were essential factors to the health of populous cities, and those cities which are the best provided in this respect are found to be the most healthful, other things being equal. In this respect, as in many others, there is room for development. Every city, town and village should have its parks and gardens, and every house should have its collection of plants—its miniature window gardens, in which the lavish gifts of nature may be studied by old and young.

What gift is most appropriate to a sick friend? What can compare with a freshly gathered bouquet of delicately tinted flowers, sweet and fragrant, the very emblem of life, health and happiness? Many a sad heart has been gladdened, and many a dark day brightened by a gift so simple and yet so emblematic of love and tender devotion that it is a peculiar nature indeed that is not touched thereby.

While not making any pretensions, as florists or any attempt at fancy collections, it is scarcely necessary to add that here we all delight in flowers. Even little two-year-old Frances delighted to run among the flower-beds during the summer months, greeting this plant with "pretty," and that plant with "lovely," stopping to admire, but seldom to molest. Our tulip-bed was a brilliant sight of gorgeous beauty for several weeks in the spring, and passers-by gazed with evident delight or stopped to praise the collection, and yet it requires only a few hours' care in twelve months. The beds of sweet-williams, zinnias, sweet-peas, asters, petunias, gladiolus, etc., were each a source of joy to us, while visitors were extravagant in their praises. And now our small collection of choice chrysanthemums are alike enjoyed by us and those who view them from the highway. A part of them served to decorate a neighboring church on the occasion of its dedication, and their lovely tints and modest grandeur won many new friends to the already long popular flower.

I frequently find myself indulging in the wish that every family might possess a home of its own, and that these homes might be surrounded by all the lovely flowering plants and shrubs adapted to the locality, where youth and old age might live in happiness and contentment, not endangered by the strife and turmoil of the avaricious.

JOHN L. SHAWVER.

A BOUNDLESS STUDY.

The subject of natural history is almost boundless. It is defined in Webster as a description and classification of objects in nature and the phenomena which they exhibit to the senses. Its field is as broad as the surface of the earth, as deep as the waters of the sea, and as high as the sky. "Beauties and Wonders of Land and Sea" includes the most curious natural history objects in the world, illustrated by over 1,000 pictures. See offer on another page.

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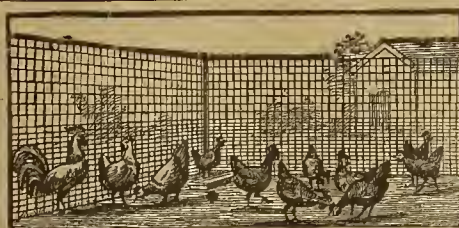
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It illustrates and Describes the most practical and latest improved line of FARM IMPLEMENTS in the world.
FOURTEEN OF THEM
BINDERS, REAPERS, MOWERS, TEDDERS, RAKES, HARROWS, CULTIVATORS, ETC.

5 NEW IMPLEMENTS

IN THE LIST ADDRESS
N. W. BATES, Sales Dept.
D. M. OSBORNE & CO.
AUBURN, N.Y.

WE HAVE BRANCH HOUSES ALL OVER THE U.S. YOUR ENQUIRY WILL BE REFERRED TO THE ONE NEAREST YOU.



Cabled Poultry, Garden & Rabbit Fence, also Cabled Field & Hog Fencing. Steel Web Picket Lawn Fence, Steel Wire Fence Board, steel gates, steel posts, steel rail, tree, flower and tomato guards. Catalogue free. De Kalb Fence Co., 38 High St., De Kalb, Ill.
Mention this paper.

We would not have expended HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS doing galvanizing, for which we made no extra charge, had there not been merit in it. Galvanizing consists in coating the strong but most perishable (in thin sheets) metal, steel, with the almost indestructible (even when very thin) metals, zinc and aluminum. If there were not great merit in galvanizing, no one would pay 1/4 more for galvanized barbed wire or sheet iron than ungalvanized costs. If we were making painted windmills to-day, we should furnish an

8ft. for \$15

That is a good price for an 8-foot painted windmill. WE BUILD FOR THE AGES. WE WOULD NOT SELL YOU A POOR, PAINTED WHEEL, NOR ONE MADE OF METAL GALVANIZED BEFORE BEING PUT TOGETHER, IF YOU WOULD PAY US DOUBLE PRICE FOR IT. We build the best we know, and knowing that painted thin sheets are practically worthless, we have nothing to do with them. The enormous cost of preparing to do galvanizing, and of doing it well on a large scale, deters others. SOME BUY GALVANIZED SHEETS AND PUNCH AND SHEAR AND MAKE THEM UP AFTERWARD WHEELS OR VANS MADE OF GALVANIZED SHEETS RUST OUT FIRST AROUND THE RIVETS, JOINTS, AND EDGES, AND ARE, THEREFORE, NOT SO GOOD AS PAINTED ONES. How any concern can get our prices for painted windmills and painted towers, or those made up of galvanized material, cut, sheared and punched after the galvanizing is done, can only be explained by the fact that people who buy them are ignorant of the value of galvanizing. We now galvanize everything after it is completed, even bolts and nuts. We galvanize with the most improved processes and in the most perfect known and attainable manner.

The process: When a section of an Aermotor Wheel is all riveted up, completed and cleaned of rust and impurities, it is immersed in melted zinc and aluminum and left there until it becomes as hot as that metal, and until every crack, crevice, pore and opening of every closed up and saturated metal, is filled, and the whole section becomes soldered and welded together, as one piece, then you have something durable and reliable. It is expensive to do, and small does cannot afford to do it. aluminum melted from one silvery white coating which every portion of the Aermotor zinc and aluminum when at time, forms, with the steel, alloy, which cannot be indestructible. In our prices of wind-mills, illustration of what we REDESIGNING AN OLD IT IN INFINITELY SMALLER, RIDICULOUSLY SMALL THE OFFER OF AN ALL-STEEL VERY SUPERIOR FEED CUTTER, WORTH \$40 AS PRICES GO, AT \$10. IN OUR NEXT AD. WE SHALL OFFER YOU SOMETHING OF STILL GREATER INTEREST. Aermotor Co., Chicago.

THE "TIP TOP" CORN PLANTER

has all the latest improvements, including Check Rower, Drill and Fertilizer. It does excellent work, is very neat and strong; all steel and iron. Purchasers always like it. Send for full description.

KEYSTONE MFG. CO.

Sterling, Ill.

We have Branch Houses well located. Mention this paper.

Selections.

MAMMY GETS THE BOY TO SLEEP.

Come erlong, you blessed baby,
Mammy'll tell you story maybe;
Dat's right; clam up in my lap
Lak er man, an' take er nap.
Wuk so hard he almos' dead;
Mammy's arm will res' his head.
Pore chile oughter bin in hed
An' hour ago.

Tell you 'bout the possum, honey?
De mammy possum got er funny
Leetle pouch, er bag o' skin
Lak you totes yore marbles in—
All along her underside
Whar tbe baby possums hide
When dey's sceered, er wants to ride—
Quit wigglin' so!

Some time that mammy—pore ole critter—
Has sixteen babies at one litter;
Wide-mouf, long-nose, squirmen' things,
Wid tails dat twist lak fiddle-strings,
Sixteen lak you to nek er fuss,
Ter tote, an' feed, an' rock, an' nuss—
Keep still! Hit's no 'sprise ter us
Possum's hair's gray!

Honey, when de houn' dawgs ketch 'im
Dere nose an' paw ain't more'n tech 'im
Tell drop, dat possum he done dead;
No sign er life from foot ter head;
Wid eyes shet tight, he lay an' smile,
An' fool dem houn' dawgs all de while.
Play lak you's er possum, chile—
Yes, dat's de way.

Possum in de oven roastin',
Slice sweet taters roun' 'im toastin',
Taste so good when he git done!
Mammy'll give er baby some.
Eyes—shet—tight—yes, dat's de way—
Houn' dawgs goin', goin' erway—
Bless de boy, no possum play
In dat sleep!

—Gertrude Manly Jones, in *Atlanta Constitution*.

BRET HARTE'S EARLY DAYS.

IN a conversation with Bret Harte, in *McClure's Magazine*, the interviewer asked Mr. Harte: "And were you taking notes for future literary work at this period?"

"Not at all," was the reply. "I had not the least idea at this time that any portion of literary fame awaited me. I lived their life, unthinking. I took my pick and shovel and asked where I might dig. They said: 'Anywhere,' and it was true that you could get 'color,' that is, a few grains of gold, from any of the surface earth with which you chose to fill your pan. In an ordinary day's work you got enough to live on, or, as it was called, 'grub wages.' I was not a success as a gold-digger, and it was conceived that I would answer for a Wells Fargo messenger. A Wells Fargo messenger was a person who sat beside the driver on the box-seat of a stage-coach, in charge of the letters and 'treasure' which the Wells Fargo Express Company took from a mining camp to the nearest town or city. Stage robbers were plentiful. My predecessor in the position had been shot through the arm, and my successor was killed. I held the post for some months, and then gave it up to become the school-master near Sonora—Sonora having by immigration attained the size and population which called for a school. For several years after this I wandered about California from city to camp, and camp to city, without any special purpose. I became an editor, and learned to set type, the ability to earn my own living as a printer being a source of great satisfaction to me, for, strange to say, I had no confidence until long after that period in literature as a means of livelihood. Nearly all my life I have held some political or editorial post upon which I relied for an income. This has, no doubt, affected my work, since it gave me more liberty to write as pleased myself, instead of endeavoring to write for a purpose, or in accordance with the views of somebody else."

WHAT THE NATION HAS DONE IN TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

During this period its debt per capita has been reduced from \$64.43 to \$12.55, a steady decrease which, in connection with increasing population, has made the burden of taxation comparatively light.

In 1869 the government paid in interest \$3.32 for each inhabitant, while that charge in 1893 was only thirty-four cents. On the other hand, the sense of the nation's obligation to the survivors of the civil war was so great that the charge for pensions was increased from 78 cents per capita in 1869 to \$2.37 in 1893.

The net ordinary receipts of Uncle Sam in 1869 was \$9.82 per capita, against \$6.91 in 1893.—*American Grocer*.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES are unequalled for clearing the voice. Public speakers and singers the world over use them.

THE BABY'S DIET.

The indiscriminate diet allowed children by their mothers is a most prolific cause of stomach and bowel complaint. For instance, in the most of families, children not over two years of age, or as soon as they are able, are allowed to sit at the table and indulge in all the kinds of food that may be thereon—hot rolls, hot buttered cakes, sausage, fish, ham, cucumbers, new potatoes and all other vegetables, pastry of all kinds, preserves, cheese, sweetmeats and fruit—not one of which is fit for a very young child to eat unless especially prepared for it. It is a marvel if the digestive organs do not break down under a diet that will make a grunting, gout-ridden creature of a grown man if persisted in.

Mothers would save themselves much care and suffering, perhaps heartache, if they would have a little more care about what they let their little ones eat. There is a fearful mortality of children between the years of two and five, and mostly in bowel complaints. A professional man of over forty years' standing said to me the other day that there is much more sickness among the very young now than there was a third of a century ago, and he is of the opinion that the mothers are to blame, primarily because they are so careless of what their little ones eat. Irregular eating interferes with healthy digestion in a child even more than it does with a grown person, yet mothers let their children "pieee" at all hours of the day, and eat quantities of candy and fruit between times, and then say that it is the will or ordering of Providence when death steps in. Providence has enough to bear without shoving off on it the burdens of our own carelessness.

JAPAN NOT SO VERY LITTLE.

Possibly it is because Japan is a pet of the American public that she is so frequently spoken of as "little Japan." Among the nations of the earth Japan is not especially little, either in area or population. The area of Japan, 147,655 square miles, is larger by 27,000 square miles than that of the United Kingdom. Furthermore, there are 41,000,000 people who are subject to the mikado, against 38,000,000 in the United Kingdom, taking latest census results in both cases. Japan's population is larger than Italy's by fully 10,000,000, while her area is 37,000,000 miles greater. No one speaks of Italy as "little Italy," although she is not so populous as Japan. Japan has nearly ten times the area and almost twenty times the population of Denmark. Japan is not a "little" country save as compared with such unwieldy masses as the Chinese empire or such a giant as the United States. That she is big enough to hold her own, and more, she has evinced in battle, to the amazement of her great antagonist.—*Boston Transcript*.

NOT NEW.

Advertising is not an outcome of modern necessity, but is a very ancient practice. The British Museum possesses a collection of old Greek advertisements printed on leaden plates. The Egyptians were great advertisers. Papyrus leaves over three thousand years old have been found at Thebes, describing runaway slaves and offering a reward for their capture; and at Pompeii ancient advertisements have been deciphered on the walls.

RAILROAD COLLISIONS.

Last year there were 404 rear-end collisions in this country, 311 head collisions, and 89 at crossings.

DON'T STOP TOBACCO

It is
Injurious
To
Stop
Suddenly

And don't be imposed upon by buying a remedy that requires you to do so, as it is nothing more than a substitute. In the sudden stoppage of the use of tobacco, you must have some stimulant, and in most all cases, the effect of the stimulant, be it opium, morphine, or other opiates, leaves a far worse habit contracted. Ask your druggist about **BACO-CURO**. It is purely vegetable. You do not have to stop using tobacco with **BACO-CURO**. It will notify you when to stop and your desire for tobacco will cease. Your system will be as free from nicotine as the day before you took your first chew or smoke. An iron-clad written guarantee to absolutely cure the tobacco habit in all its forms, or money refunded.

WE HAVE HUNDREDS, WE PUBLISH BUT FEW.

Office of the Pioneer Press Co.,
C. W. Hornick, Supt.

St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 7, 1894.
Eureka Chemical & Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis.
DEAR SIRS—I have been a tobacco fiend for many years, and during the past two years have smoked fifteen to twenty cigars regular every day. My whole nervous system became affected, until my physician told me I must give up the use of tobacco for the time being at least. I tried the so-called "Keeley Cure," "No-To-Bac," and various other remedies, but without success, until I accidentally learned of your "Baco-Curo." Three weeks ago to-day I commenced using your preparation, and to-day I consider myself completely cured; I am in perfect health, and the horrible craving for tobacco, which every inveterate smoker fully appreciates, has completely left me. I consider your "Baco-Curo" simply wonderful, and can fully recommend it.

Yours very truly,
C. W. HORNICK.

Rodden, Ill., Jan. 14, 1895.
Eureka Chemical & Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis.
DEAR SIRS—I have been a tobacco fiend for thirty-three years, and during the past two years have used chewing tobacco very extensively. My nervous system being affected considerably, I have often tried to give up the use of tobacco, but always failed, until I bought three boxes of your "Baco-Curo." I used tobacco at the same time while taking "Baco-Curo," and after a week I lost the appetite for tobacco—smoking or chewing. I am enjoying better health, and consider your "Baco-Curo" the safest, most harmless and reliable remedy for to break the tobacco habit.

Yours truly,
JOHN RODDEN,
Postmaster, Rodden, Ill.

Rodden, Illinois, January 15, 1895.
Eureka Chemical & Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis.
DEAR SIRS—I have used chewing tobacco very extensively the past thirty years. I tried so-called "No-To-Bac" and other remedies, but without success, until I bought three boxes of your "Baco-Curo." I continued chewing tobacco while taking the preparation, and find that the horrible craving for tobacco has left me, and I consider myself cured. I can fully recommend "Baco-Curo" to any person wishing to break themselves of the tobacco habit.

Yours very truly,
S. D. WHITE.

What Mr. Kraemer says of "Baco-Curo."

This is to certify that I, F. D. Kraemer, of Atlantic, Iowa, was an inveterate smoker of cigarettes for more than two years.

About eight weeks ago I bought three boxes of "Baco-Curo." I began taking it according to directions, and after taking one and one half boxes, all the desire for cigarettes left me and I have had no desire since.

I can heartily recommend "Baco-Curo" to all who are slaves to the Cigarette habit or tobacco habit in any form, and are in search of a cure. I had become so under the influence of cigarettes, I could not remember anything; could not study, unless under the influence of the drug, which is death in the end, if kept up.

Cigarettes are sapping the lives out of more boys and young men to-day, than anything that is known to the world. Boys, before it is too late get some of this remedy that killed the craving for cigarettes in me and save your young life. Restore yourself to manhood. You will feel as though you had escaped an awful doom, and you have, when cured by "Baco-Curo," for you feel like a new being. I never felt better in all my life than at this present writing. I did not know what was the matter with me, until informed by the agent. He told me what was the reason I could not do anything unless under the influence of the death-dealing poison found in cigarettes. I did not believe him at first, until he explained the action on the system. Then I bought the goods, and thank God and all concerned, I am a sound person to-day.

Hoping that this may reach the unfortunate cigarette smoker, I remain

Yours respectfully,
F. D. KRAEMER.

PRICE \$1.00 PER BOX OR THREE BOXES (30 days treatment and guaranteed cure), \$2.50. For sale by all druggists, or will be sent by mail upon receipt of price. SEND SIX TWO-CENT STAMPS FOR SAMPLE BOX. Booklet and proofs free. Eureka Chemical & Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis.

FREE! SAVE MONEY!

Our New 1895 Catalogue.

We are the only firm of manufacturers selling exclusively to the public direct at factory cost. You get the Exact Value for your money. No Agents', Dealers' or Middlemen's Profits Added. **CASH or on EASY PAYMENTS**, to suit your circumstances. Pianos and Organs shipped on 30 days' trial under special warrant for 25 years. No cash required in advance. Safe delivery guaranteed.

Note.—As an advertisement we will sell the first purchaser in a place one of our fine PIANOS for only \$169—or one of our PARLOR ORGANS FOR \$25.

CORNISH & CO.
Washington, New Jersey.

Established nearly 30 years.

UP-TO-DATE CLOTHING

Sold direct to consumers at Lowest Prices ever before offered. Buy direct from importers and manufacturers. We ship with Privilege of Examination. We save you from 30 to 50 per cent. A tailor fit suit, \$3.50. Overcoats \$5.50. Boys' combination Suits \$2.18. FOR OVERCOATS A SPECIALTY. Send to-day for FREE mammoth catalogue. Address, Clothing Dept. P49 OXFORD MFG. CO., 344 WABASH AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILLS.

FREE!

To advertise our new 10c. Hy. Clay Cigars we will for 30 days give free with every box of Cigars this fine 5 shot self-cocking nickel plated 32 Cartridge Revolver sent C.O.D. with privilege of examination. If satisfactory pay agent our sample price \$1.99 and express charges. KEY WEST CIGAR WORKS, 87 Washington St., Chicago.

TRUSSES FREE

TO INTRODUCE IN NEW LOCALITIES.

We will give FREE OF ANY COST for advertising purposes to one person in each locality who is ruptured, one of Dr. Horne's New Improved \$15 Single or \$20 Double Electric Truss and Belt Combined. We mean just what we say, Free of Any Cost! There are no charges of any kind to be paid by you. We are making this offer to introduce our Electric Trusses, in new localities, believing it will pay in the end. If you are ruptured write us, giving full particulars of your rupture, with measurements, so we can fit you properly. Answer at once, sending this advertisement with your answer, as we will give away but one hundred Trusses for this purpose and only one in a locality. Address DR. HORNE ELECTRIC BELT & TRUSS CO., Chicago, Ill. P.S.—We have Electric Belts for diseases. Catalog free.

WE WILL SELL YOU THE BEST BUGGY

Cart, Harness, Phantom, Spring Wagon, Surrey or Saddle in the world at lowest wholesale prices. Shipped anywhere to anyone with privilege to examine without asking one cent in advance. All goods fully guaranteed. Send for large illustrated catalogue and testimonials Free. Write to-day address (in full) CASH BUYERS' UNION, 158 West Van Buren Street, B 7, Chicago, Ills.

SUCCESSFUL AGENTS.

Our agents succeed because they have the premiums the people want. Now is the time to take up the work. Big pay. Full particulars free. Address Farm and Fireside, Springfield, Ohio.

Recent Publications.

STEPS INTO JOURNALISM. Helps and hints for young writers. A book for everyone who expects to write for the press, either as an occasional contributor or as a journalist. By Edwin L. Shuman. 229 pages, cloth, \$1.25. Published by Correspondence School of Journalism, Evanston, Ill.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

German Kali Works, 93 Nassau St., New York. "The Farmer's Guide." A pamphlet of useful information to farmers, gardeners and fruit growers on soils, crops and mineral fertilizers. This book, "Potash in Agriculture," and other publications will be sent free to any farmer who applies for them.

J. M. Phillips' Sons, Mercersburg, Pa. Seeds for the garden, farm and greenhouse.

J. C. Saffern, Vorhies, Ill. Seed grower. Specialty, thoroughbred seed-corn.

Cox Seed and Plant Co., San Francisco, Cal. Garden, field and flower seeds, trees and plants. M. F. Webster, Victor, Ontario County, N. Y. New and standard varieties of potatoes grown especially for seed.

U. S. Seed Co., Kalamazoo, Mich. Garden seeds and gardeners' tools.

Frederick W. Kelsey, 145 Broadway, New York. Choice trees, evergreens, shrubs, roses and hardy plants.

L. J. Farmer Nursery Co., Pulaski, N. Y. Small fruits. Strawberries a specialty.

The Jewell Nursery Co., Lake City, Minn. One-hundred-page book containing full instructions for selection, planting, and care of trees, plants, etc. Special novelty, North Star Currant. Send two two-cent stamps to pay postage.

Exeelsior Poultry Farm, F. S. Stahl, Manager, Quincy, Ill. Illustrated catalogue of high-class, pure-bred poultry.

G. S. Singer, Cardington, Ohio. Olontag Poultry Farm. Incubators and brooders.

Geo. W. Murphy & Co., Quincy, Ill. Improved Noxall incubator and brooder, and fancy poultry and eggs.

H. L. Bennett & Co., Westerville, O. Stump-pullers, tile-ditcher and handy farm wagon.

Syracuse Chilled Plow Co., Syracuse, N. Y. Chilled and steel plows of all kinds for level land and hillside, cultivators, harrows, road-scraper, hay-carriers, etc.

PRECOCITY.

Precocity is not a good thing. It is a sign that life and growth are not going on properly. Man is the longest of all in arriving at maturity. The inferior races are more precocious than the superior, as is seen in the children of the Eskimos, negroes, Cochinchinese, Japanese, Arabs, etc., who are, up to a certain age, as vigorous and almost as intellectual as the Europeans. Teachers find the negro children of the South as bright up to a certain time in their lives as the whites, but when they reach a certain stage of development, they do not seem to go any further. Precociousness becomes less and less in proportion to the advance made by any race in civilization—a fact which is illustrated by the lowering of the standard for recruits, which has been made necessary in France twice during the present century, by the decreasing rapidity of the growth of the youth of the country.

Precocity is often produced by the hot-house education of children by keeping them too much indoors and in hot rooms over books, with too little attention to physical culture. Parents who have precocious children had better study up the causes and the remedies. The best remedies are those which produce vigor of body and a love for an outdoor life.

WORLD'S FAIR WHEAT PREMIUM.

The wheat that took the first premium at the World's Fair last year over all others was raised on the farm of Mr. A. A. Lambrigger, ten miles south of Sheridan, Wyo. The variety was "Wyoming Ambre," and it yielded 69 bushels to the acre and weighed 66 pounds to the bushel.

This is the first time a first prize has been won by American wheat in competition with the world.

This country is reached only by the Burlington Route. It is the farmers' paradise.

BURLINGTON ROUTE—CHEAP LANDS IN THE WEST.

Along the lines of the "BURLINGTON ROUTE" in Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and Northwestern Kansas, particularly on its new extensions in that territory, there is still some Government land awaiting settlement, as well as other cheap land held by individuals. These lands are among the best to be had anywhere in the country for agricultural and grazing purposes. In the comparatively new districts are many improved farms which can be purchased at a very low rate of that class of restless pioneer settlers who are ready at all times to move "farther west." In the territory embraced by the BURLINGTON'S lines west of the Missouri river, there are in the vicinity of two hundred new towns which offer to manufacturers and business men an excellent opportunity to locate with profit. Send to D. O. Ives, General Passenger Agent, "BURLINGTON ROUTE," St. Louis, Mo., for descriptive pamphlets and other matter giving location and full particulars concerning these lands.

THE LONG DAYS OF VACATION.

During vacation-time would you not like to earn money easily? We can tell you how to do it. For full particulars write to the publishers of this paper.

TOKOLOGY

A complete ladies' guide in health and disease, is written by ALICE B. STOCKHAM, M. D., who practiced as a physician over twenty-five years. Prepaid, \$2.75. Sample pages free.

BEST TERMS TO AGENTS.

ALICE B. STOCKHAM & CO., 277 Madison Street, Chicago.

\$300.00 SAVED.

Mr. I. L. Ochsner, 22d St. and Clark Ave., St. Louis, Mo., says: "About 8 months I was laid up with inflammatory and muscular rheumatism of 6 years' standing. I had tried every known remedy with poor results, and was about to go to Hot Springs in order to secure temporary relief if possible, when I heard of Schrage's \$1,000,000.00 Rheumatic Cure.

Three bottles cured me, and I have been well ever since. I know of 40 cases this wonderful remedy has cured. It saved me \$300.00." Doctors praise it; pleasant, harmless. Cures where all else fails. Bank references. **WRITE TO-DAY.** A few good agents wanted. Must be high class. Not a "cure all." **SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO.,** 167 Dearborn Street, Chicago.

The Owen Electric Belt



Trade Mark—Dr. A. Owen.

FOR MEN AND WOMEN

The latest and only scientific and practical Electric Belt made, for general use, producing a genuine current of Electricity, for the cure of disease, that can be readily felt and regulated both in quantity and power, and applied to any part of the body. It can be worn at any time during working hours or sleep, and

WILL POSITIVELY CURE



Rheumatism, Lumbago, General Debility, Lamé Back, Nervous Diseases, Sciatica, Female Weaknesses, Constipation, Kidney Diseases,

WITHOUT MEDICINE

Electricity, properly applied, is fast taking the place of drugs for all Nervous, Rheumatic, Kidney and Urinal Troubles, and will effect cures in seemingly hopeless cases where every other known means has failed.

Any sluggish, weak or diseased organ may by this means be roused to healthy activity before it is too late.

Leading medical men use and recommend the Owen Belt in their practice.

Our Illustrated Catalogue

Contains fullest information regarding the cure of acute, chronic and nervous diseases, prices, and how to order in English, German, Swedish and Norwegian languages, will be mailed upon application, to any address for 6 cents postage.

The Owen Electric Belt and Appliance Co.

Main Office and Only Factory
201 to 211 STATE ST.,
CHICAGO, ILL.

The Largest Electric Belt Establishment in the World.

Mention this paper.

YOU SAVE 50%

IF YOU BUY A HIGH GRADE OXFORD WHEEL For men, women and boys at prices ranging from \$15.00 to \$50.00. **WE HAVE NO AGENTS.** We ship from factory subject to approval and are the only manufacturer selling direct to consumers. Don't pay local dealers a profit of 50 per cent. but **WRITE TO-DAY** for our handsome catalogue. Address, **OXFORD MFG. CO.,** Bicycle Dept. P. 350 338 Wabash Ave., Chicago.



BROWNIE STAMPS.

More fun than a barrel of monkeys. A complete set of TEN grotesque little people, Policemen, Dudes and Devils, with overlying ink pads. With them a boy can make a stamp in a minute. To introduce our big Catalogue of 1000 new articles, we send the Brownies postpaid for 10c. **R. H. Ingersoll & Bro.,** 65 Cortlandt St., N.Y. City.



J. E. POORMAN
MANUFACTURER
5 W 5th St.,
Cincinnati, O.

BICYCLES

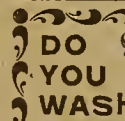
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FREE! IT COSTS YOU NOTHING THIS HIGH-GRADE \$60.00 MACHINE ABSOLUTELY FREE. No Misrepresentation. No Scheme. We mean just what we say. This machine is yours free. No such opportunity has ever before been offered. We shall continue these liberal terms for only a short time. Cut this out and write today. Sewing Machine Department P. 508 **OXFORD MFG. CO.,** 312 Wabash Ave., Chicago

SENT FOR EXAMINATION BEFORE PAYMENT

BICYCLES We make handsomest, highest grade \$100. wheel in the world and sell you direct from factory for \$50. Illustrated catalogue explains our new plan. Send for it. **F. S. WATERS & CO.,** 155 W. WASHINGTON ST., CHICAGO, ILL.



DO YOU WASH DISHES? No need of it. The Faultless Quaker will do it for you and save time, hands, dishes, money, and patience; no scalded hands, broken or chipped dishes, no muss. Washes, rinses, dries and polishes quickly. Made of best material, lasts a lifetime. Sell at sight. Agents, women or men of honor desiring employment may have paying business by writing now for descriptive circulars and terms to agents. **The QUAKER NOVELTY CO.,** Salem, O.

SOLDIERS OR THEIR HEIRS. MUCH MONEY still due to Commissioned officers of late war or heirs. Additional pay from date of Rank can be secured if claim is filed before June 3; so write at once. Patents for inventions also secured. **COLLAMER & CO.,** 1004 F St., Washington, D. C.

FILL YOUR TEETH Dr. Truman's Crystalline STOPS PAIN & DECAY. (all kinds) \$20 per 1000. Particulars for stamp. Advertisers' Clipping Bureau, 100 W. 27th St. New York.

WILL YOU distribute Circulars and samples for us? No canvassing. Salary and expenses to travel. Send stamp. **ADVENTURES BUREAU,** 447 6th Ave. New York City.

BIG profits to agents selling our **ACME CAKE BEATERS.** Quick sales. **BUTLER MFG. CO.,** 746 Clinton St. Chicago.

RUBBER STAMPS. Best made. Immense Catalogue Free to agents. **The G. A. HARPER MFG. CO.,** Cleveland, O.

CASH PAID for your neighbors addresses, also newspaper clippings (all kinds) \$20 per 1000. Particulars for stamp. Advertisers' Clipping Bureau, 100 W. 27th St. New York.

OUR RODS, Spanish Needles and Dip Needles are the best instruments for hunting minerals. **B. G. Stauffer,** Box 33, Harrisburg, Pa.

\$80 PER MONTH. Ladies or Gentlemen. New Specialties, Instructions and Samples free. Write us at once if you want work. **Peoples Mfg. Co.,** 9 Valpey Block, Detroit, Mich.

AGENTS to sell Household Specialties everybody needs. Quick sales. Big profits. **Sherman & Butler,** 16 N. Canal St., Chicago.

LOOK HERE Why not earn lots of money? We will show you how you can do so easily if you will write at once. Address **Farm and Fireside,** Springfield, O.

SALESMEN WANTED to sell our goods by samples to the wholesale and retail trade, sell on sight to every business man or firm; liberal salary, money advanced for advertising and expenses. Permanent position. Address with stamp, **KING MFG. CO.,** A 64 Chicago, Ill.

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THE WHY AND WHEREFORE.

He knew that she owned a couple of farms,
And he said as he folded her tight in his arms:
"This treasure I'll take."
The smart servant maid, as she saw the embrace,
Remarked as she threw her hands to her face:
"For the land's sake!"
—Philadelphia Record.

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Tell the acreage of Sweden,
And the serpent's wiles at Eden;
And the other things we teach 'em
Make a mountain so immense
That we have not a moment left
To teach them common sense.
—Truth.

A GREAT MAN AVENGED.

Do you love life?" asked the big man as he kicked up the sawdust and fell heavily into a chair at one of the pinochle tables.
"I suppose I do," said the quiet German who kept the place.
"Well, then, bring me a scuttle of beer, and if there's a collar on it you don't get a cent. See?"
The big man drank the beer at one dripping gulp, and then glared unsteadily around the room at the back-beer sign, the announcement of the Schwaben picnic, the steel engraving of Germania and the picture of Bismarck.
"Who's that gazabo?"
"He is te ghreat Pismarck."
"Great nothing! He ain't in it; that's what he ain't."
The proprietor looked at the ice-pick, and then he changed his mind.
"Haf a peer?" said he.
"I'll go you," said the big man. He accepted a third and fourth. On the eighth he fell asleep over the table.
The quiet German went to the door and called in a heavy policeman.
"Here's a goot cigar," said he. "Take him in. He's been disorderly. I appear myself at te station."
Five minutes later two policemen hauled out the big man, whose dragging toes left long, snaky lines along the sawdust. The quiet German, dusting the picture, said:
"Pismarck is affenged, I pet you."—Chicago Record.

HENS.

The following is a boy's composition on hens:
"Hens is curious animals—they don't have no nose, nor no teeth, nor no ears. They swallow their wittles whole and chew it up in their crops inside of 'em. The outside of hens is generally put inter pillows and inter feather dusters. The inside of a hen is sometimes filled with marbles and shirt-buttons and such. A hen is very much smaller than a good many other animals, but they'll dig up more cabbage-plants than anything that ain't a hen. Hens are very useful to lay eggs for plum-pudding. Skiney Bates eat so much plum-pudding once that it sent him into the colliery. Hens has got wings and can fly when they get scart. I cut Uncle Williams' hen's head off with a hatchet, and it scart her to death. Hens sometimes make very fine spring chickeus."

UNIQUE FOOLISHNESS.

"That was a very foolish young woman," observed Mr. Billus, laying his morning paper down for a moment and renewing the attack on his beefsteak, "that married the wrong man the other day, and blurted out her confession to that effect at the altar. The young man that she didn't marry has had a happy escape."
"Yes, she was foolish to make a fuss at such a time," assented Mrs. Billus, who was staring abstractedly at the wall. "Most women find out soon enough that they have married the wrong man, but they have sense enough to keep still about it. Have some more coffee, John?" she inquired sweetly.

UNPARDONABLE IGNORANCE.

"You speak of that boy across the street as a 'geezer,'" said the elderly customer from the country. "What is a geezer?"
"A geezer," replied the boot-black, busily plying both his brushes, "is about the same thing as a gazabo."
"And what is a gazabo?"
"Say," retorted the boy, straightening up and looking at him with open-eyed astonishment; "you'd better go to a night school."—Chicago Tribune.

A MATTER OF DOUBT.

"Maria," he said thoughtfully, "I want to ask you something."
"What is it?"
"Do you think that you'll ever have a vote?"
"I do, assuredly."
"If you get one, and I run for office, will you cast it for me?"
She was thoughtful for some time; then she said:
"Hiram, I can't say yet. Not until our debating society has passed on the question whether a woman's first duty is to her fireside or her country."—Washington Star.

BAD ADVICE.

"I don't think I shall ever be a socialist," said Mr. Manhattan Beach to Mr. Uptown Westside.
"No?" queried Westside.
"No, indeed. I attended that meeting at the Thalia Theater the other night, out of curiosity. One of the speakers said: 'We are on the verge of a precipice,' and then he boldly called for the socialists to 'march on!'"—Texas Siftings.

DISCREET AVOIDANCE.

American host—"It seems to me a rather singular fact that in all your conversations you have never mentioned Goethe."
German guest—"Vell, you see how id is. If I bronounce his name as you Americans bronounce id, my Sherman friends vill laugh at me; and if I bronounce it correctly, my American friends vill nod know who I am dalking about."—New York Weekly.

THE SECRET SAFE.

"And you ask me to marry you?" exclaimed the proud beauty scornfully. "You! Hiram Jinks! I would not for the world have any of my friends know you have subjected me to this humiliation!"
"Then we'll not say anything about it, Miss Rocksey," said Hiram, looking about for his hat. "Great Scott! You can't feel any more sneaking over it than I do."—Chicago Tribune.

BY SLOW APPROACHES.

"Now, jedge," said the sworn colored witness, "I'm a-gwine ter tell you de truth now!"
"And what have you been testifying to for the last hour and a half?" asked the judge.
"Oh, I jes' been talkin' up ter it. Hit takes you some time ter git ter de truth, jedge. You has ter skirmish lots 'fore you can catch de rabbit!"—Atlanta Constitution.

ATTEMPTED TOO MUCH.

"So it's all over between us, is it, Laura?" asked George fiercely.
"Yes, George; it is over," replied Laura. "I wouldn't have minded your flirting with all the girls some of the time, or with some of the girls all the time; but I do object to your flirting with all the girls all the time. Here is your ring."—Chicago Tribune.

PITFALLS.

Willie—"Papa, will you tell me a story?"
Papa—"Yes. What shall it be?"
Willie—"Oh, tell me that story over again about when you was fishing up in Maine."
Mother (calling from next room)—"Willie, come out here this instant! Don't you know your papa joined the church last week on probation?"—Judge.

UNNECESSARY EXCITEMENT.

"Girls, what do you think? Blanche is going to marry a lord!" exclaimed Miss Kissam.
"Oh, tell us all about it!" exclaimed the rest of the girls in an excited chorus.
"Yes, it's true. He owns a couple of houses. He's a landlord."—Town Topics.

PROBABLY DIDN'T GET HER.

Her father—"No, young man, my daughter can never be yours."
Her adorer—"My dear sir, I don't want her to be my daughter; I want her to be my wife."—Titbits.

A GOOD EXCUSE.

Teacher—"Robbie, have you a good excuse for being late?"
Robbie—"Yes'm; buckwheat cakes and syrup."—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Every Man Should Read This.

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TOO FAR GONE.

Author—"I have come to ask you what you think of my melodrama."
Theatrical manager (handing it back)—"It's too mellow, my friend; it's spoiled."

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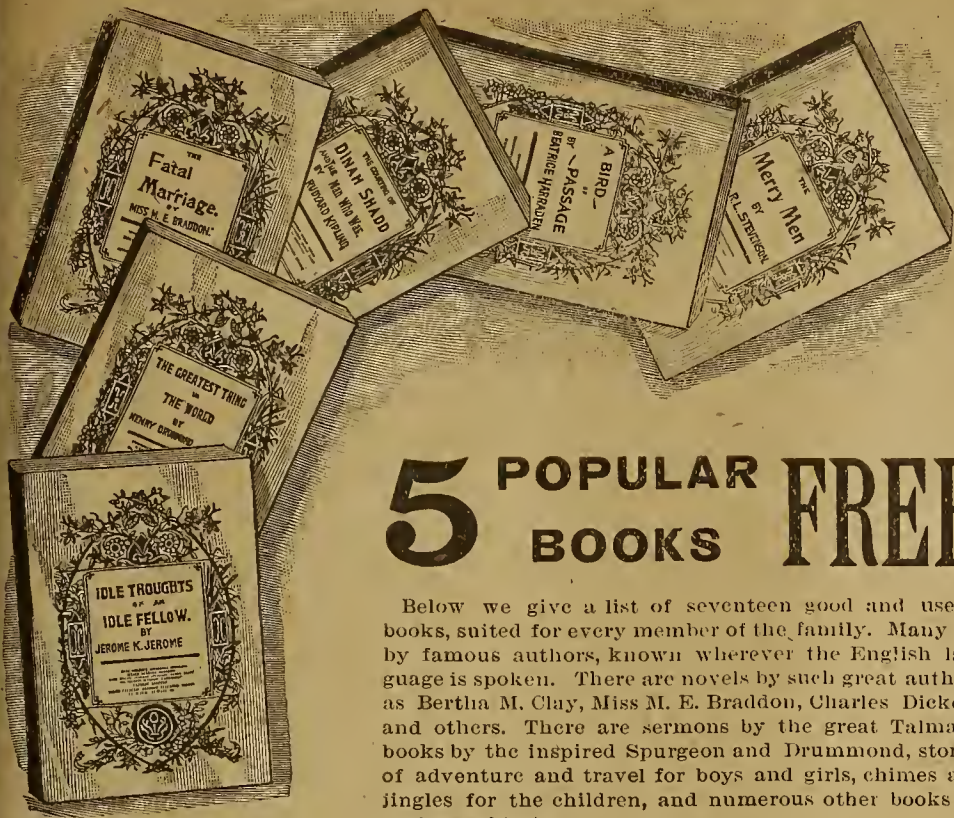
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No. 59. **The Courting of Dinah Shadd.** By Rudyard Kipling. It would be like "painting the lily," or "gilding refined gold," to attempt to praise Mr. Kipling's works. His "Plain Tales From the Hills," "The Phantom Rickshaw," in fact, all his stories are so fresh, so original, so new, that to see the name of Rudyard Kipling appended to a story sends a thrill of delightful anticipation through one; and in this case the anticipation cannot fail in being surpassed by the realization. The interest is kept up from the beginning to the close, and we feel the better for the half hour's change from the prosaic, dull, every-day life to the scenes with which Mr. Kipling has surrounded us by his matchless skill.

Below we offer two popular books written by Charles Dickens, one of the greatest novelists who ever lived. These books abound in wit, humor, pathos, masterly delineation of character, vivid descriptions of places and incidents. They are intensely interesting to children as well as grown persons.

No. 96. **The Haunted Man.** By Dickens. An interesting love story into which are gathered some of the truest and noblest to the bright thoughts of the wonderful author.

No. 95. **The Battle of Life.** A love story, by Dickens. This is one of his best.

No. 60. **A Bird of Passage.** By Beatrice Harraden, author of "Ships That Pass in the Night," which had a wonderful sale through America and England. Few ladies have written more popular stories than Miss Harraden. "A Bird of Passage" is original and interesting.

No. 71. **John Ploughman's Pictures.** By the late Rev. Chas. H. Spurgeon, the great London preacher and evangelist. This is one of the most original and popular books of the age. The author states in the preface that its object is to smite evil, and especially the monster evil of drink, and it is safe to say that the plain talks of John Ploughman, couched in Spurgeon's quaint sayings, his wit, his logic, his power for good, have accomplished more than any similar publication. This book can be read by every member of the family over and over with increasing pleasure and profit, and every mother who has a son that must face the temptations of the terrible curse of drink should have a copy. Illustrated.

No. 99. **The Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow.** By Jerome K. Jerome. For that common but extremely unpleasant complaint, "the blues," this book is a pleasant and effective cure. Mr. Jerome is sometimes called the "English Mark Twain," and is certainly one of the best living writers of pure, wholesome fun. There is not a dull line in the book. Every paragraph is scintillating with flashes of brilliant wit. Who has not, at some time or another, had "the blues," or been "hard up?" Who has not been in "love?" For a royal treat, read the author's thoughts on these and numerous other subjects. The "thoughts" which fill a book may be "idle," as the author terms them, but they certainly emanate from a busy brain.

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No. 64. **The Greatest Thing in the World.** By Henry Drummond. This book is on love as taught by Christ and the disciples; and if any one doubts that love is the greatest thing in the world, and if they want to be made stronger in their love for all things, they must get this book, by all means.

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No. 90. **On Her Wedding Morn.** By Bertha M. Clay. In the world of fiction there have been but few characters to whom the sympathies of the reader goes out with more tenderness than Huldah Vane, the heroine. This is a companion novel to "Her Only Sin," and will be read with the same intensity of feeling, with mingled joy and sadness as the characters in the book have cause for tears or laughter. It is a love story that must appeal to every reader.

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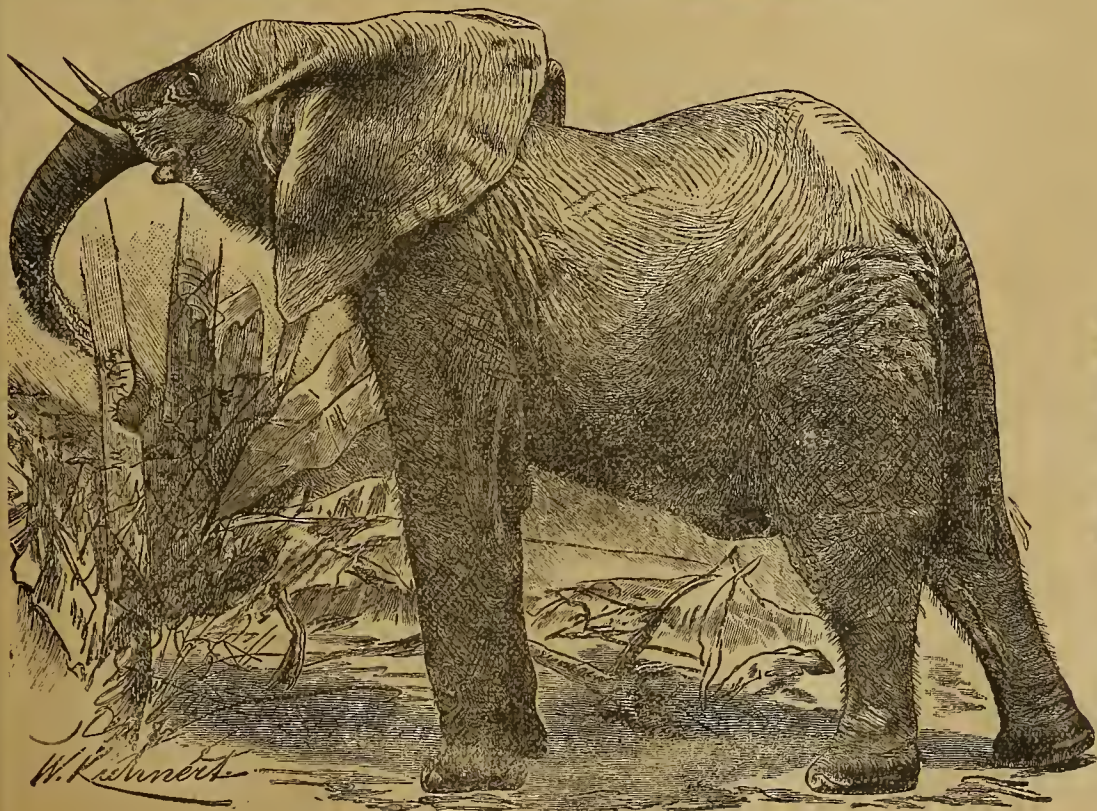
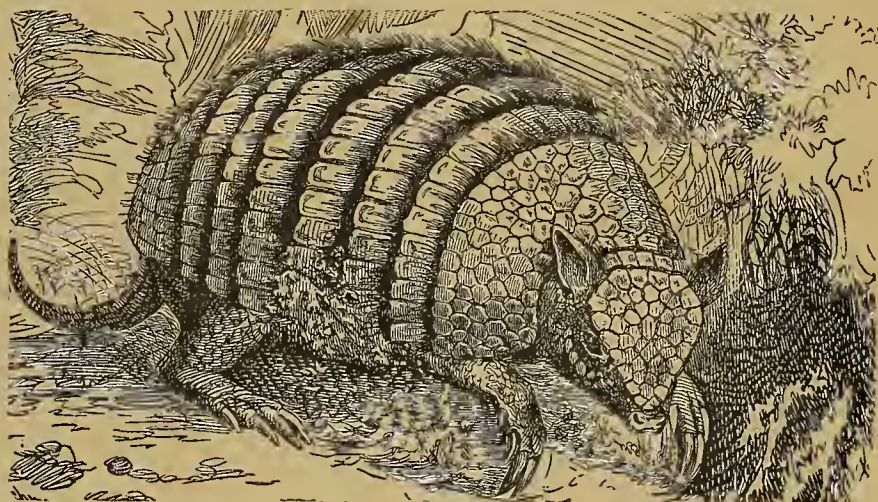
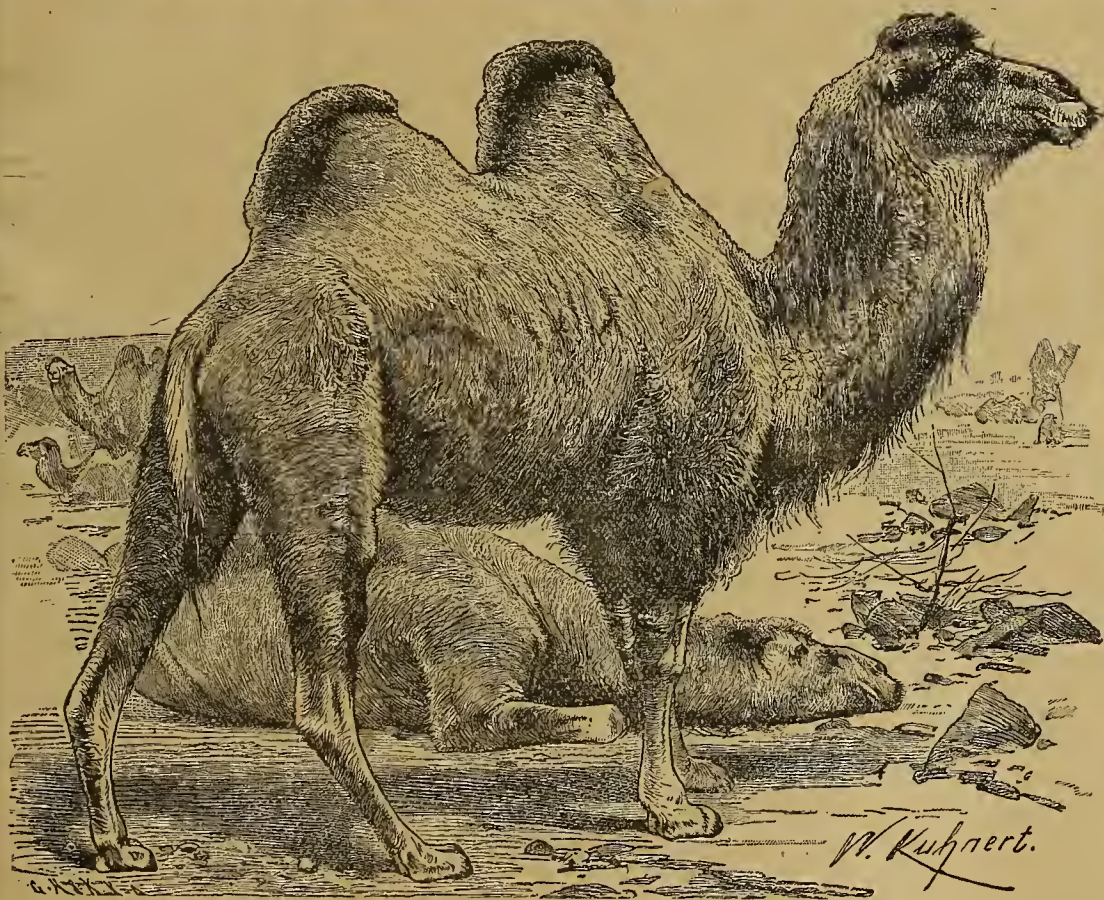
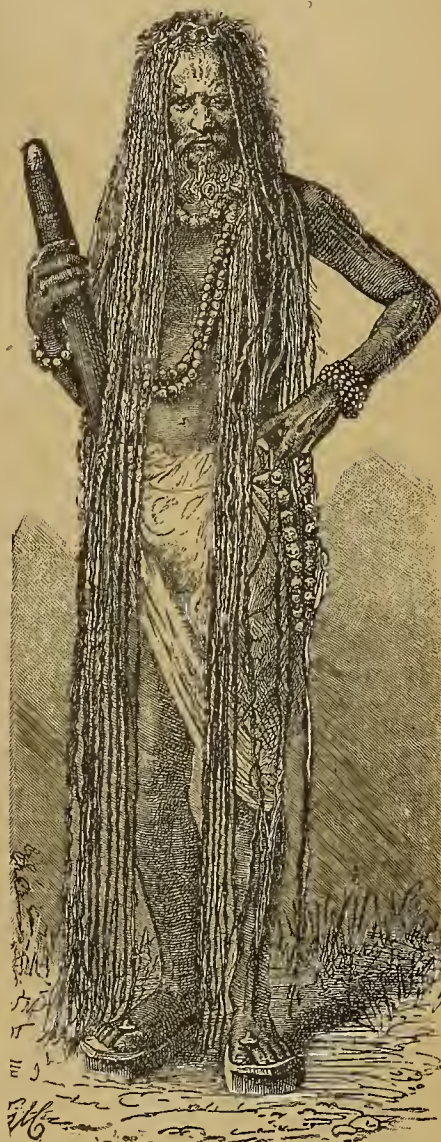
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Last year we commenced an elaborate plan of advertising, but before we were half through, OUR ADVERTISEMENTS DISAPPEARED. Why? Because WE WERE OVERWHELMED WITH BUSINESS. There was but one thing to do: withdraw the advertising and devote every energy to filling the orders with which we were flooded. This we did, and handled with reasonable promptness a most unprecedented year's business. WITH ENLARGED FACTORIES, INCREASED FACILITIES, AND TWENTY BRANCH HOUSES FROM WHICH TO DISTRIBUTE OUR GOODS, WE CAN NOW CARE FOR ALL WHO COME. Last year we could not reduce prices because we were compelled in some way to limit the demand for our goods. We would have been satisfied with lower prices, but why create a demand which we could not supply? We have made the heaviest purchases of steel and material bought in America this year, and at unprecedented prices, and have made terms to dealers which enable them to make unprecedented prices.

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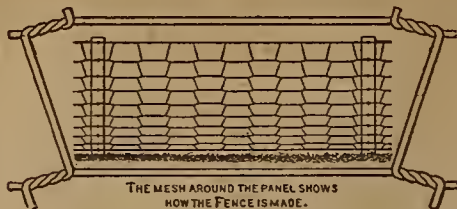
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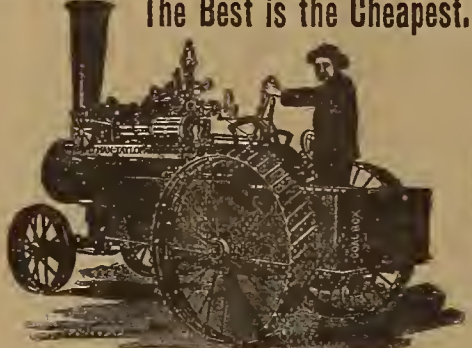
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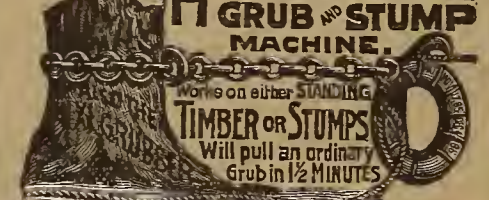
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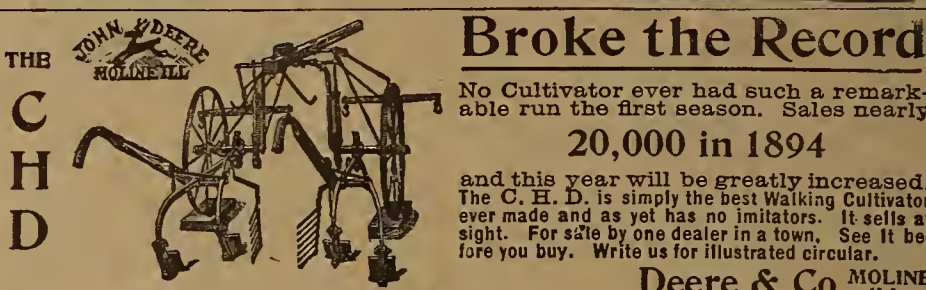


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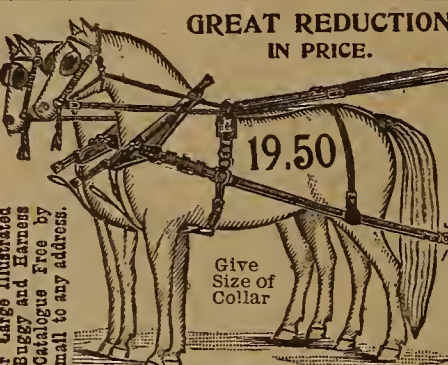


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EASTERN EDITION.

Entered at the Post-Office at Springfield, Ohio, as second-class mail matter.

VOL. XVIII. NO. 14.

APRIL 15, 1895.

TERMS { 50 CENTS A YEAR.
24 NUMBERS.

INFORMATION FOR ADVERTISERS.

THIS ISSUE WILL BE

250,000 COPIES

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five readers to each copy, FARM
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to those who, though industrious, were unfortunate in not being able to find work. Most of them were men of families, of course. Ground was allotted to about thirty widows whose sons were large enough to cultivate the land.

The expense of the city in buying the seed and preparing the land and making all the preparations was not more than \$3,600, while the venture netted to the cultivators food to the value of from twelve to fourteen thousand dollars. These figures show what a splendid venture the investment proved to be. A very essential point in this way of helping the poor is the fact that it does not take away their self-respect. People feel that they are earning the potatoes, cabbage, beans and corn which they raise. In Mayor Pingree's plan we have a splendid object-lesson which other cities will do well to profit by. It is also an object-lesson to people in the country in the way of bringing about closer relations between the out-of-work in the cities and the land uncultivated in the country. If we can once bring these two elements together, and get them properly adjusted, the suffering in cities will be much less in the future.

IN the *Forum* for April, Edward Atkinson discusses the battle of the standards and the fall of prices. "There is not," he says, "a single important product of industry in agriculture, manufacturing, transportation or commerce in which there has not been a reduction in the cost of production or distribution which will not more than account for any reduction in the price which has occurred between 1873 and 1892. It is admitted that during the panic of 1893, which was caused wholly by the attack upon the unit of value by the advocates of free silver coinage, and by the fear of their possible success, prices were forced down below cost by the paralysis of trade and industry which ensued."

In the compilation of the table given, the prices and wages are derived from official sources. The prices have been computed and compared on a gold basis on a unit of 100 in 1860. Summarizing, the table gives the following:

	1845.	1850.	1855.	1860.	1865.	1870.	1875.	1880.	1885.	1890.
Av. prices of all commodities	102.8	102.3	113.1	100	216.8	142.3	127.6	106.9	93	92.3
Average of all wages.....	86.8	92.7	98	100	143.1	162.2	158.4	141.7	150.7	158.9
Purchasing power of wages..	84.4	90.6	86.6	100	66	114.1	124.1	132.3	162	172.1
Gold price of silver bullion..	95.3	97.3	100	100	99	98.2	92.2	84.7	78.7	77.4
Paper money.....	100	100	100	100	49.5	81.1	88.8	100	100	100

"The table shows how the depreciated currency of the war impaired the purchasing power of labor, notably in the year 1865, in which year the purchasing power of wages had lost more than one third from 1860. It shows next how long and slow the struggle was to attain the safe standard of the gold unit in 1879, and since then how continuous has been the beneficial influence of low prices, small profits, lessening rates of interest and constantly increasing earnings or wages. These favorable conditions continued from January 1, 1879, until the financial panic in April, 1893, put a temporary stop to progress, causing abject want to exist of constantly increasing abundance.

"Since 1840, wages have doubled, hours having been reduced from fourteen to ten per day, and are now earned under better and more wholesome conditions of work, while prices have been very greatly reduced.

"Sauerbeck's tables are quoted more than any others by the advocates of the bimetallic treaty of legal tender, under which it is proposed to give to the creditors of the United States an option to pay us for our grain, provisions, copper, steel, oil and manufactures in silver, while depriving ourselves of the choice or power of demanding gold. This policy is sustained on the authority of Sauerbeck's tables and upon the ground that there has been a 'fatal fall' in prices since 1873, which is attributed to the disuse of silver as money of full legal tender, to which partial disuse of silver the term of 'demonetization' has been misapplied. Upon an examination of Sauerbeck's table it will appear that there was a fall of prices in 1849 to a point as low within a fraction as the average of 1890 and 1891; then a rise; next a fall, and then a rise in 1864 to a point nearly as high as in 1873; then a fall, and then the final great speculative rise and financial debacle in 1873, when English credit and goods began to be spread over the world in a way which has but lately culminated in the disastrous losses in Australia and in South America. It will be observed that there were greater fluctuations and variations in the course of prices, and almost as great a fall at one period between 1846 and 1872, when the Latin Union was in existence and silver was coined in France freely at the ratio of fifteen and a half of silver to one of gold, as there have been since silver was deprived of its full function of legal tender.

"Since 1873, there have been less fluctuations than before, rather an orderly reduction in most prices, varying slightly with the difference in seasons in each year, but corresponding closely with reduction in cost. This beneficial fall has been accompanied by a corresponding or correlative rise in wages, greater in the United States than in any European state. Since 1873, under the influence of peace and the stability of the gold unit of value, this

appointment, a young Japanese, Koyama Rokunseki, attempted to assassinate him. For a few days it was thought that Li Hung Chang, who is now an aged man, could not live, but he has rallied, and may recover.

There were universal expressions of regret at this unfortunate event. Japan seemed to feel keenly the disgraceful act of one of her countrymen. Although any truce looking toward the suppression of hostilities had not been agreed upon, the emperor of Japan at once telegraphed to his representative to grant a suspension of hostilities extending to April 20th, pending a settlement of the differences between the two countries. The young assassin has been sentenced to penal servitude for life. Japan has done what she could to atone for the act of one of her unworthy sons. The world is looking forward with eager expectation to the outcome of the present peace conference.

TO an interviewer representing the *Chicago Tribune* Dr. Depew said:

"Lexow committee, Tammany Hall and civil service reform are mingled in one colossal subject, so to speak. The revelations of the Lexow committee showed that civil service reform is absolutely the only salvation for our great cities—the only manner in which they can be protected from the oppression of thugs of every kind, from police justices to grand jurymen. Where in any part of the world, except in this free republic, would such things as the committee revealed have been possible? They would cause a revolution in Paris, and even in St. Petersburg. Remember this: The despotism of liberty is more infamous than that of autocracy, for the dread of assassination ever menaces the tyrant king, while nothing short of political revolution can prevail against the tyrannies of this glorious country. Organized brigandage, with all the details of capture, ransom and torture, has prevailed, and has only been checked by popular indignation. Corruption—not to as good a degree, perhaps—holds other cities in slavery, and civil service reform, rigidly enforced, can alone right this gigantic wrong."

At the recent election, Chicago cast a majority vote for a civil service law, and made a long stride toward municipal reform.

THERE is now hope that the great lottery schemes which have been the cause of so much harm throughout the country are forever prohibited. The anti-lottery law, which passed the House over a year ago, and was put through the Senate at the last moment by Senator Hoar, is expected to result in the total suppression of the lottery traffic. Few, if any, realize the great power of the old Louisiana lottery. Although there has been national and state legislation on the subject, this octopus has thus far evaded all restrictions and carried on an enormous business through the mails and express companies. The new law makes it illegal for express companies to handle lottery business. It gives the postmaster-general power to refuse to deliver letters of any kind to any one who is shown by satisfactory evidence to be conducting a lottery. The penalties for disobeying the law are heavy, including a fine or imprisonment, or both.

WE will all welcome the coming of summer. The past winter has been a severe one not only throughout almost every part of our country, but throughout the whole northern half of the world.

England has not had so much cold weather in a long period of years. The suffering in the large cities among the poorer people especially has been enormous. It is a very painful thought to think that hundreds and thousands perish from hunger and cold during these winter months in the larger centers of population; and it seems all the more pitiable when we recall the fact that there are so many acres of land lying either idle or which are but poorly cultivated. These might be made to produce food sufficient for every individual. Of course, it is partly the fault of the people themselves, but circumstances have not a little to do with people's lives. There are certain classes of people who prefer to take their chances of starving in a large city rather than to go to the country, with assurances that they will have plenty with which to feed and warm themselves.

Last year considerable comment was made upon a plan which was proposed by Mr. H. S. Pingree, the very efficient mayor of Detroit, Michigan. He saw within the city limits and the environs, several hundred acres of land which were not being utilized for any purpose whatever; his proposition was that the owners of these lands and vacant plots should donate the use of the land to the poor people—to those in absolute need—to be cultivated in potatoes and vegetables. The year's report has just been published. About four hundred and thirty acres were accepted by the committee for the city. The land was plowed, harrowed and staked off into parcels of one quarter to one half of an acre each, and allotted to people who were found worthy—usually to people who were not from year to year dependent upon charity, but

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FARM AND FIRESIDE,

Springfield, Ohio.

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We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

British Agriculture. The agricultural depression in Great Britain is becoming more and more severe. All the agricultural associations are now engaged in careful search for the causes and serious discussion of possible remedies.

Wheat Feeding. An estimate compiled from returns from farmers, stock feeders and grain dealers, covering the entire country, places the amount of wheat fed to live stock in the United States from July 1, 1894, to April 1, 1895, at 83,000,000 bushels.

Flax. "Flax for Seed and Fiber" is the title of Farmers' Bulletin No. 27, published by the United States Department of Agriculture. This publication gives the best known methods of cultivating flax for seed and fiber in the United States, and is recommended to inquirers on that subject.

"Sweet Potatoes: Culture and Uses," is the title of Farmers' Bulletin No. 26, which is published for free distribution by the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. The subject is treated concisely, but comprehensively. The information given in this bulletin has been obtained largely from the principal growers of this crop, and their methods of propagating the plants and cultivating, harvesting and storing the crop are fully explained.

Congressional Seed Dealers. From an investigation made by Secretary Morton, it appears that some congressmen sell the quotas of seed allowed them for free distribution among their constituents, and pocket the returns. An agent of the Department of Agriculture bought part of one member's quota for a fraction of its value. The exposure of these transactions will greatly assist the secretary in his efforts to have the free-seed distribution system abolished.

Crimson Clover. A Wisconsin subscriber reports that a patch of crimson clover which he sowed last fall endured the winter and now looks well. It is a more favorable report than was expected from that latitude. He inquires about sowing it in the spring. It is usually sown in the summer or fall as a catch crop between regular farm crops, and that seems to be its best place. But exper-

iments with spring sowing should be made. If it is considered desirable to omit a regular farm crop for a season and grow crimson clover as a renovator and soil-improver, there is no reason why it should not be sown in the spring. Sow it alone on a fine, firm seed-bed, prepared as for oats, at the rate of twelve to fifteen pounds to the acre.

Horticulture. Among the horticultural associations, none displays more enthusiasm than does the Western New York Horticultural Society. The recently published report of its fortieth annual meeting contains instructive papers on the best modes of raising fruits, their cultivation, preservation and marketing, renovating old orchards, fertilizing soils, destroying insect and fungous enemies, and many other interesting topics. Mr. John Hall, Rochester, N. Y., is secretary of the society.

San Jose Scale. So far as now known, the San Jose scale made its first appearance in Ohio about four years ago, on young apple-trees brought from an eastern nursery. This is one of the most destructive insect pests the fruit grower has to fight. It not only attacks the fruit, but destroys the tree. Every Ohio fruit grower should apply for the bulletin recently issued by the agricultural experiment station at Wooster, Ohio. In bearing orchards it does not spread very rapidly, and prompt work now will prevent immense loss.

The accompanying cut, with the following description taken from the bulletin, will enable fruit growers to recognize this species of scale-insects:

"Its round shape and small size distinguish it at a glance from the other species infesting deciduous fruit-trees in our state. It is quite flat, a little raised in the center, pressed close to the tree around the edges, resembles the bark of the twigs in color, and when full-grown is decidedly less than one eighth of an inch in diameter. Perhaps the majority of the scales do not equal one sixteenth of an inch where they are closely crowded together; but where a few only are found on the succulent shoots or on fruit, they become larger, and the females may in extreme cases reach nearly one eighth of an inch. The males rarely exceed one sixteenth of an inch in diameter. At or near the middle of each scale is a small, round, slightly elongated black point; or this point may sometimes appear yellowish.

"When occurring upon the bark of twigs or leaves in large numbers, the scales lie close to each other, frequently overlapping, and they are at such times difficult to distinguish without a magnifying-glass. The general appearance which they present is a grayish, very slightly roughened, scurfy deposit. This is much more prominent on trees like the peach, or those varieties of apple and pear that have a reddish color, and when these are thickly infested they seem to be coated with dust or ashes. When the scales are crushed by scraping, a yellowish, oily liquid will appear, coming from the soft, yellow insects beneath the scales, and this will at once indicate to one who is not familiar with their appearance the existence of healthy living insects beneath the scaly covering."

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

Green Manuring. The matter of green manuring continues to be a burning question. A. W., a reader in East Java, N. Y., whose land "is not overstocked with plant-foods," says the problem with him is how to improve the soil most cheaply, as stable manure is like the boy's short-cake, so short it won't go around. If green manuring will be liable to help him out, he desires to know about the comparative value of clover, cow-peas and rye. That a piece of land can be improved in fertility, and therefore in productive capacity, by green manuring does not admit of doubt, and I think I have already explained this in a previous article. It may be well to quote, however, what so good an authority as the late Peter Henderson said in his "How the Farm Pays."

"When a farmer has unfortunately become possessed of a poor farm, there is no better way of cheaply improving it than

green manuring. To secure an adequate supply of manure is rarely possible, and at the best is a very costly process. But a crop that may be easily grown in a few weeks, and then turned under, may furnish to the soil as much fertilizing matter as eight or ten tons of manure, and the process may often be repeated two or three times in one year. For instance, if the land is plowed in October and sown to rye, the rye may be turned under in May or June, and corn may be planted. This will be in full growth early in August, when it may also be turned under, furnishing ten or twelve tons more of valuable matter."

The principle herein explained is correct. In most cases, when the farm is called poor, because the land does not produce paying crops, it is only the surface soil which has been deprived of its supplies of available plant-foods, while the subsoil possesses still a wealth of all the substances needed to produce good crops. The most natural thing to do in such case is to "work the subsoil," and by growing deep-feeding crops, such as rye, clover, etc., bring the plant-foods from the subsoil to the surface, and thus in reach of our ordinary crops. I have explained this more in detail in the last number when speaking of the new fad of manuring with ground rock.

Value of Different Manure Crops. For us here at the North, under ordinary circumstances, clover is the thing. It is one of the crops in the regular rotation, and we do not lose the use of the land for a season. We get the first crop for hay, and the second growth, the same season, for



APPLE BRANCH WITH SCALES—NATURAL SIZE.
MAGNIFIED SCALE ABOVE.

manure. The plant goes way down into the subsoil and brings up minerals, at the same time accumulating nitrogen from the atmosphere. But this method of improving the soil may be too slow in some cases; the soil may be too far exhausted to give us even a good crop of clover. Then we must resort to rye, or if we can begin earlier in the season, perhaps to buckwheat, as a starting-point. The buckwheat growth is to be plowed under in September or October, and the land at once put to rye, this in its turn to be plowed under in the spring. Mr. Henderson recommended corn as a manure crop to follow after the rye. Perhaps corn makes as much bulk as anything we might grow. As it does not draw nitrogen from the uncombined nitrogen supply of the atmosphere, however, I have an idea that I should prefer after the rye a leguminous crop which does.

Fortunately, we have a number of quick-growing annual crops among them that are good for this purpose, especially and besides others, the southern cow-pea and the Japanese soy (or soja) bean. Either of them will give us a large amount of green stuff to plow under, even on thin soil and as far north as my locality. Rye may again be planted in the fall, and the land seeded to clover in spring. As a soil-improver, I would prefer the mammoth to the ordinary red clover, although the latter is preferable for hay. The land should now be in shape for the regular crop rotation, with clover as one of the links. In this method of improvement we use the land for at least a whole year to the production of manure crops, removing nothing whatever from it during that time. And yet this will often be found a much cheaper and safer course than trying

to grow profitable crops with the help of purchased manures.

Plowing Under Heavy Growths. The correspondent mentioned at the beginning of this article tells me that common field-peas grow so tall and rank on his land that he does not know how to manage to plow them out of sight. Cow-peas and soy-beans are likely to give just as heavy a growth and just as tangled a mass of foliage as common field-peas, but there should be no difficulty to plow them under and out of sight. We can cut and mash these heavy growths down with a disk harrow going ahead of the plow, or perhaps with a roller, in which case we should take pains to run the roller in the same direction that we are going to plow. The old method of plowing under such heavy crops, as given in "How the Farm Pays," is as follows: "In turning under so tall a crop as rye or corn, the plow should be run across the rows, and a heavy chain looped from the plow-beam, just ahead of the standard, to the land-side end of the inner whiffle-tree. This loop drags in the furrow, so as to catch the falling corn or rye and pull it down and into the furrow so that the soil covers it. To prevent the disturbance of the green manure by the harrow after this, the ground should be rolled after the plowing, and then harrowed with the smoothing or brush harrow, or worked with the Acme harrow. The best way, in many cases, is to cut the green crop and leave it on the ground to rot, and plow under in the fall.

It seems to me, however, that land cannot be hopelessly poor when common field-peas produce such a tangled mass of vines. Surely a judicious system of cropping, with clover every third year, would alone suffice to not only keep the land in good productive capacity, but to make it better from year to year. It may also pay to help the growth of the clover and other manure crops along by light applications of dissolved rock and muriate of potash, or of other cheap forms of the mineral plant-foods. A hundred pounds or so of each per acre will in many cases give very satisfactory results.

Crimson Clover and Vetches. I have mentioned neither crimson clover nor vetches as promising manure crops, although both may have great value in many instances. I tried the vetches last year on a poor clay soil, but they did not thrive, the plants remaining small and sickly. I also sowed some crimson clover in August and September on clay loam, but only few plants made their appearance, and these also remained small, puny things. Possibly I got hold of poor seed, but until I make a more successful trial I shall not be very enthusiastic about crimson clover for my use.

Purchased Manures for the Garden. When I wish to bring up a piece of land to get it in shape for gardening purposes, the methods mentioned, namely, growing manure crops, are far too slow to suit me. I feel that I have no choice in the matter, but am obliged to use large quantities of bulky manures. It is always best to start with good soil, and the richer the better. But we cannot always do that. On soil already rich, manure usually gives the best results and the greatest returns and profits. When the soil is poor to begin with, however, we have to pile on the manure all the more freely, trusting that we will get our pay for it in time. We hardly ever make a miss, either. Whatever the cost of manure, we must have it and use large quantities of it, or spoil our chances for a satisfactory outcome from the very start. When we can buy our stable manure at fifty cents a load as big as a good, stout horse can draw on level and good roads, we get it cheap enough; but I would not hesitate to pay one dollar for such a load if I could not get it for less and needed it to supply my garden land with lacking humus and plant-foods. With a chance to dispose of garden crops at fairly good prices, the free use of manures pays well. This does not exclude the advisability of using commercial fertilizers at the same time, or adding such materials as superphosphate, bone-dust, and perhaps potash compounds (kainite, etc.) to the manure, either for the sake of securing a better balance in its constituents, or for its better preservation when it has to be kept and composted.

T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

THE PRACTICAL UTILITY OF WIND-BREAKS.

For modifying the temperature, lessening evaporation and the force of high winds, especially in prairie sections and where the ax of the lumberman has not spared a single tree to shelter us now, wind-breaks on nearly every farm are almost indispensable.

Half a century ago, peaches and tender fruits were common products in southern Michigan, Ohio and western New York and other northern states, while now a crop, or even healthy trees, in the same localities is the exception instead of the rule. All realize that the climate is less uniform. More extremes of heat and cold prevail, and droughts, cyclones and blizzards are very much more common than they were fifty years ago.

In the prairie regions where the states have aided by judicious legislation the planting of timber belts, the extremes of heat and cold have been greatly modified, and destructive droughts, such as formerly occurred in Kansas and Nebraska and the prairie states east of them, have, by reason of the rapid increase in the number of trees planted, become much less common than formerly.

Smeaton, in his "Philosophical Transactions," gives the following figures as to the force of the wind, at special velocities on one square foot: The force (weight) of the wind blowing at the rate of thirty miles an hour is 4.429 pounds; at forty miles an hour, 7.873 pounds; and at one hundred miles an hour, a hurricane, or with a force of 49.200 pounds per square foot, sufficient to carry trees and buildings before it. The necessity, therefore, of planting wind-breaks on the open prairies or where the lands have been cleared for tillage is obviously the only practical method of lessening the frequency and accompanying terrors of the cyclone, and creating more favorable climatic conditions for fruit growing and profitable farming.

Without the protection of wind-breaks, the snow that falls upon the treeless land is swept forward by the piercing winds and deposited in deep drifts in ravines, where it is not needed, and its great value as a soil and plant protector is lost. With the force of the storm broken by numerous and properly located wind-breaks, the snow would be deposited somewhat evenly over the land, and being a poor conductor of heat, the snow would melt slowly, and much of the alternate freezing, so common on the uncovered soil, would be prevented. More than this, the soil, by not being so deeply frozen, would thaw out quickly and absorb much of the rain and hold it in reserve for the benefit of the summer crops. Without such protection south of the fortieth parallel of latitude, the rain falling upon the slightly thawed surface would carry with it to the lowest places the rich surface mold so valuable as a source of available plant-food.

Not only are wind-breaks necessary on the prairie of the Northwest, but many orange growers in Florida realize the fact that timber belts there would have very materially modified the temperature during the freezes which occurred December 28th and February 8th, when the mercury sank as low as twenty degrees above zero at Tampa City, in the southern part of the state.

In Florida, the pecan-tree could be utilized to good advantage in the wind-break row, as in six or seven years the trees would attain a height of thirty to forty feet, and when fully grown about eighty feet. With a lake front, or a good wind-break to the north and one on the west side of an orange grove or a trucking patch, frosts would seldom damage either the tropical fruits or vegetables. The original pine-trees might be left for the outside row, and next to it one row of pecan-trees could be set twenty-four feet apart in the row, and then another row inside of this of evergreens of sturdy, compact growth, like the red cedar, or, as a beekeeper might desire, the pyracantha, which with its honey-laden flowers would possess an added value, could be used. A step-like wind-break of this kind would not only be useful and profitable, but ornamental.

It is estimated that a hedge six feet in height will afford protection to plants a distance of seventy feet, and that a hedge or wind-break of trees will, for every foot in height, protect an equal number of rods in distance. The best authority on practi-

cal farm matters in the valley of the Ohio, says that a timber belt two rods in width will so protect a wheat-field that the yield will be greater than if the space occupied by the trees had also been seeded. A timber belt of the black or yellow locust, of one sixteenth of an acre, would be worth at the expiration of ten years from the time of planting from \$60 to \$75, or about \$400 per acre.

The great benefit of wind-breaks as a protection to stock from cold winds and storms; the earliness that the grass can be pastured; the protection that would be afforded to all tender fruits; the saving of feed and fuel in winter are but a few of the many advantages that would accrue to farmers if each one had one or more timber belts at the most exposed places on their farms, to say nothing of the added comfort and attractiveness of the farm home, which would follow were ornamental wind-breaks so placed as to thoroughly protect it.

Such blizzards as those which swooped down from the Northwest during the past winter, and gathered within their chilling embrace half the continent and blighted the green-foliaged trees, shrubs and ripened fruits of the land of flowers, can be measurably prevented in a few years if the good work is begun now.

Near Washington, D. C. W. M. K.

GROWING CORN FOR PROFIT.

Corn is the great American cereal. We produce about three times as many bushels of corn as wheat in the United States. At first blush one might suppose that the seventy odd millions of acres we annually plant in corn are planted for profit, that all grow corn for the profit to be gotten. This is a mistake. Much of the corn is grown on land that no reasonable man would expect profit from, and by methods that cannot in reason be expected to accomplish much. Corn is planted in fields unfitted for corn production, because the owners of the fields want feed for stock; want a maintenance ration for work-horses, a fattening ration for hogs that supply the family with meat, and some nubbins for the cows, that is a necessity from their standpoint, regardless of condition of the fields. As the corn is not converted into a cash article, no figuring is done, but there is a hazy idea that there is no profit in it at all, and a distinct idea that the acres must be planted. Do I overstate the case? I think not. The result is that our national average yield of corn per acre is pulled down to twenty odd bushels, and consequently we know that millions of acres yield less than twenty bushels per acre.

It is evident that too many acres are required to grow the corn needed on farms that are not especially adapted to corn, but that need grain for stock necessarily kept on the farm. Many millions of acres are thus employed. Very often the first attention, the best effort, is given the cash crop, be that what it may, and the corn is neglected because it brings in no cash directly, no figuring on cost per bushel is done, and no pride is taken in the crop. If it pays to grow the feed used by our stock, it should be made to pay as well as possible; if it does not pay to grow the feed, then should the stock be sold or feed should be bought. There are but two ways for it: It pays, or it does not pay. If it does not, then do we grow poorer by keeping at it. But if the fault lies in the failure to give the corn crop a fair chance—and there it often lies—now is the time to change. What is a fair chance for corn?

First, a good sod, properly plowed. Corn thrives on decaying vegetable matter. It is a gross feeder and loves heat. Fermenting grass and roots furnish food to its liking and the needed heat. Hence, a sod makes a good seed-bed for corn. What is proper plowing? Here good farmers differ, and partially because it is a matter of soils. But if land be deficient in organic matter, shallow plowing of a sod is preferable, for two reasons. First, it warms up the surface soil better because nearer the air and heat that produces fermentation. Second, it can be reached by the disk harrow or other implements in preparing seed-bed, and so torn to pieces and incorporated with the soil that it is more effective as plant-food, keeps the soil in better mechanical condition, and increases the store of moisture the soil can hold in readiness for droughts. An abundance of organic matter is needed by the corn-plant, and if a soil be deficient in

this respect, as it usually is in fields that give these small yields, the vegetable mold that sod can afford should be gotten from it as fast as possible, and that is when it is accessible to air, heat and moisture. I incline to not over six inches depth of plowing for corn, and know very successful growers who get their best crops off sod turned only five inches. After the soil has been filled with organic matter, one can plow deeper, and thus increase the ability of the soil to withstand drought.

Some growers will not accept the statement that half the culture of a corn crop should be given before the corn is planted, but thousands attest its truth. The food of the plant should be prepared beforehand, and this is accomplished by tearing the sod to pieces in a most thorough manner. If the land has been properly plowed with the use of a jointer, the grass is in the bottom of the furrow, five or six inches under the surface. It will decay rapidly. We are after the millions of roots that form the sod. With disk or spring-tooth harrow they should be torn to pieces and every clod of earth pulverized. There should be four inches of soil on the surface ready to surrender up its plant-food to the young corn-plant. The tramping of the horses and the preparation of the seed-bed firms the earth and grass at the bottom of the furrow, so that soil water from beneath can rise. The grass readily ferments and gives up its plant-food. The corn-plant has a chance to do its best, has the heat fermentation gives, has food, has the needed air that passes in when organic matter is present in the soil, and has moisture from beneath. Of course, it takes a little more time to prepare a seed-bed in this way, but with improved implements the work is done rapidly, and after tillage is saved.

Nothing has been said of manure. It is a pretty well-accepted fact that the manure should always be put on the sod the preceding year. It should be made to grow clover, or to thicken up the timothy on the thinner land. By converting the manure into timothy or clover roots and top, we double its manurial value to the corn, get double the amount of plant-food we otherwise would have. If the amount of manure is limited, as it must be on the farms that are producing less than twenty bushels of corn per acre, one cannot afford to draw it out directly before the plow, and turn it under. It goes into the bottom of the furrow in lumps, and cannot be broken up and mixed with the soil. Much of its value is lost, at least to that year's crop. In preparing for a corn crop I know of no better way than to draw and spread manure after harvest directly upon the sod land that will be broken up the next spring.

There is seed-corn that will grow if everything is favorable, if the soil is all right, the moisture just right and the heat abundant. Then there is seed-corn so hardy and full of vitality that it will withstand lots of hardship, and will make a good stand under very unfavorable conditions. Nothing insures vitality in seed-corn like fire-curing. If the excess of moisture has been driven out in the fall, cold weather can hardly injure it. Curing by fire is not essential, of course, and usually careful drying in the air is sufficient, but seed-corn should by some means be thoroughly cured in the fall. "The best stand of corn I ever had," says one, "was from seed taken from an open crib." This is often the case. It may be all right. A house may not burn down, but insurance is a good thing. Corn may be dry enough, or a winter mild enough, to permit one to get a splendid stand, but care in drying seed-corn is insurance. The corn is surer to germinate in a bad spring. It is too late to help the matter now, but it will pay to test the seed intended for use, and if not first-class, go to one who always has good seed.

Plant shallow early in the season, and deeper as the season grows later. It is my experience and observation that early planting of corn is the surest. If the soil has been thoroughly prepared, the chief objects of future cultivation are to keep weeds from starting, and to keep the surface of the soil stirred so as to prevent the escape of moisture. If proper preparation of the ground and good cultivation were given, we could grow our usual crop of corn on many millions less acres than are now planted. DAVID.

VARIETIES OF SORGHUM.

For the past twenty-five years we have been raising sorghum, and during that time have tested every new variety that we could get, with the exception of a few varieties tested by our neighbors, that were so decidedly inferior that we didn't want to tinker with them. For the northern states the Amber and other early maturing varieties will continue to be the main reliance for something sweet. For all those who live far enough south for the later, larger, taller, heavier and far better varieties, as Early Orange, Gooseneck, and even Red Top, the Amber will be thrown in the shade. In localities that are not subjected to heavy winds, the Gooseneck is a good variety, being of good quality and greater productiveness than any other variety of our acquaintance. For the western or "windy" states, and the great southwest, the Red Top would probably be the best, on account of its tendency to stand up like a tree. For the central and southern states, and, in short, all portions of the country where it will succeed, the Early Orange is for most all purposes so decidedly the best that the other varieties simply "ain't in it" at all. Its quality is strictly first-class in every respect; as to quality, it is beaten by but few. Of all the different varieties that have been introduced in this section the past twenty-five years, under the somewhat high-sounding titles of "Honeycomb," "Honeydrop," "Goldendrop," "Goldenrod," etc., we have found but four—namely, Early Amber, Early Orange, Red Top and Gooseneck—that were worthy of continued cultivation. It is a case of the "survival of the fittest;" the others have been here; they are gone, and the place that knew them, knows them no more. G. H. TURNER.

Mississippi.

THE CHOICEST HAY.

The choicest hay for horses is a mixture of timothy and alsike clover. Alsike is the easiest of all clovers to cure. It is free from the down, or fuzz, found on the stalk and leaves of red clover, and does not become dusty when cured, even if rained on after it is mowed.



Truly Marvellous

A Cure Seldom Equalled in Medical History

"My wife sprained her ankle ten years ago. It apparently got well to all outward appearance, it being a little larger than the other ankle, but in a few months three sores broke out on her knee, her ankle, and foot. They became

Large Running Ulcers

and the doctor could not do anything to help. I then took my wife to the hospital and the surgeons scraped all the flesh round the sores, and said they would get well. They almost healed up, but soon two little specks came, one on each side of the first sore. The doctors said they would not amount to anything, but in a few days they turned out to be more ulcers, and in a short time they had eaten into the original sore and made a large wound. The surgeon next decided that an

Operation Must Be Performed.

My wife would not consent to this. I was about discouraged and decided to have her

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the Only True Blood Purifier

try a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla. Besides giving her this medicine we bandaged her foot in steeped leaves and roots and continued this treatment for five months. At the end of that time she had taken eleven bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla, the sores were all healed and she is perfectly well. My wife is 52 years old and is in the best of health. JOSEPH C. FREEBY, Long Beach, California.

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable, and carefully prepared from the best ingredients.

Our Farm.

FROM FIELD AND GARDEN.

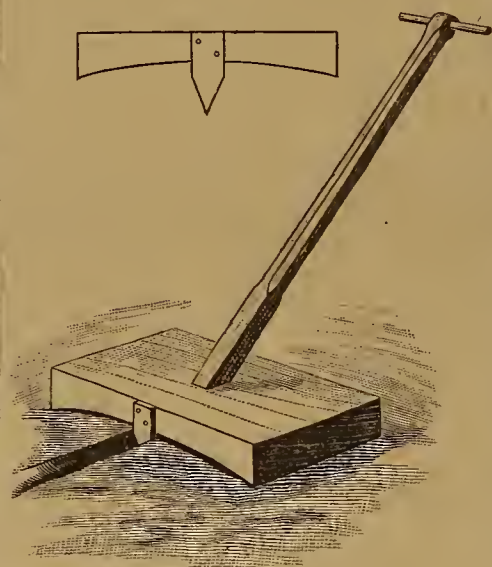
BEST EARLY POTATOES.—J. R. P., of Montgomery county, New York, wants me to name the six earliest potatoes, first in the order of their quality, second in that of earliness, third in that of yield. So far as quality is concerned, I think I would unhesitatingly put Freeman first. Indeed, this feature is the strong point of this variety, and the chief reason why I would not do without it in my garden, but I could hardly recommend it to everybody for general planting as an early market sort. Besides, it is more a midseason than strictly an early sort. Next in quality I would place the Early Ohio, and about equal to it the Polaris (or Puritan of Henderson), then Beauty of Hebron, Early Rose, Early Sunrise. As to earliness, Early Ohio must be placed first, then Queen (of the Hebron type), then Early Maine and perhaps Sunrise (of the Rose type), and finally Early Rose, Beauty of Hebron and Polaris. In yield, potatoes usually stand in the reverse order of their earliness, but there are exceptions; for instance, if I have a rich piece of loam, even if a little stiff, I would plant the Early Ohio in the expectation of raising as large a crop of potatoes as of any other I could select. It is emphatically a garden potato, and in rich garden soil I have had it turn out at the rate of five hundred bushels per acre. But don't plant it on ordinary farm land, even if fairly good, and expect as large a crop as if you plant Hebron or Rose, or especially any of our later big-yielding standard sorts, like Rural New-Yorker No. 2, or Star, etc. Early Rose (or any of its various strains, and perhaps seedlings), Beauty of Hebron and Polaris are probably the varieties among the early potatoes to plant for quantity.

FEW VARIETIES ENOUGH.—I might have named many other varieties. New ones have been and are constantly being introduced. There are occasionally among them some of great merit, and a few have become favorites in certain localities. It is almost impossible to keep track of all these new introductions. All I can say is that the sorts named are satisfactory to me, and will be to the general planter who selects the sort from among them which fits his particular purpose and soil. For practical use I want only few varieties. Six are by far too many for me. I plant only two early potatoes for my own use, Early Ohio and Freeman. All other early ones I plant for trial only. For late ones, I would plant White Star to the exclusion of all others, if I did not happen to have a mixed lot of selected seedlings of my own; and these, while strong-growing plants, good yielders and generally satisfactory to me, I plant only because they are of my own origination, and not because I consider them ahead of anything and everything else. I do not expect to ever introduce a new potato. By far too many are being introduced all the time which have no striking merit above our older standard sorts. And yet should I ever succeed in finding "a better potato than was introduced before," I shall not hesitate to bring it out. As for my chances of success, I would as soon expect to draw the first prize in a lottery.

BEST SWEET CORN AND SQUASHES.—The same reader also asks me to name the six best varieties of corn (presumably sweet corn), the six best and hardiest grapes, and the three best squashes. Why so many varieties of sweet corn, except for trial or variety? For all practical purposes three will be all that are required. I use the Cory for a first early. Although a good many sorts have been introduced during the past four or five years as earlier and superior to it in many respects, I would yet plant the Cory as my chief dependence for the earliest supply. For the medium, I use Black Mexican. It is by far the richest and sweetest of all. To people, however, who object to the dark color of this when going pretty well toward ripening, I would recommend Moore's Early (or Early Concord). For a late variety and main crop, the old Stowell's Evergreen is yet good enough for me. If you want more variety, use Shoe Peg (or Country Gentleman) and Mammoth (Mammoth Sugar), all of which are very late. For late planting, or planting in a locality with short seasons, Moore's Early would be as suitable as anything I know of.

Among summer squashes, you have your choice between the Bush Scalloped (white or yellow) and summer Crookneck. I usually plant the latter, but others may prefer the former. It is a matter about which one cannot dispute. As a winter variety the old Hubbard still stands at the head, and the only sort which I would plant about as willingly as this is the Marblehead.

BEST AND HARDEST GRAPES.—In earliness and hardiness the Green Mountain (Winchell) easily ranks first. For the general crop in most sections of this state we want the old and reliable Concord, and surely the Niagara. These are hardy and good, but too late for the coldest portions of the state. I have seen that the Delaware, although it is less hardy and quite subject to leaf-blight with us, does remarkably well year after year in some localities where the Concord would seldom get ripe. This only shows that particular local conditions are sometimes just right for the production of one kind of grape and not for that of another. Another good black grape is the Worden. It is very much like the Concord, and sometimes we can hardly tell it from that older favorite. In some seasons it has seemed to be a little earlier, but the difference is not much at best. One of the very best grapes, to my taste, is the Brighton, a red sort. It may not be as hardy as the Concord, but it stands our winters here quite well, and when planted near other varieties which will furnish to its imperfect blossoms the needed pollen, it also is immensely productive of very large and very handsome clusters. Indeed, the clusters it bears are among the very largest in the whole vineyard of ninety to one hundred varieties on trial, a large proportion of the clusters coming close up to a pound in weight. This grape is of exceptionally good quality when first ripe, but it soon loses in this respect, and it is useless to try



PLANK MARKER.

to keep it for any length of time. If you want a grape to keep way into the winter, you should plant Diana, Vergennes, and especially the old Isabella. But all these are very late grapes, and not suited to localities where the seasons are hardly long enough for the Concord.

TREE TOMATOES.—A reader in Oklahoma (G. N. D.) inquires about the tree tomatoes for his climate. I gladly say a few words about them for the edification of the general reader. Every little while some seedsman offers a tree tomato. I have tried a good many of these upright-growing, stocky sorts, but while this habit of growth makes them interesting, I cannot concede to them much practical value. They are dwarfs in growth, bear comparatively few fruits, and these are rather small in size, without giving us the advantage of greater earliness. Undoubtedly the best of this class, and the only one which might be grown for general purposes, is Dwarf Champion. It gives good and reasonably early fruit, and when the plant is supported by a stake, or in a similar way, it will hold to an upright form. If unsupported, however, it is sure to lodge when the branches begin to load up with tomatoes. The Mansfield tree tomato is not a tree tomato. It is of rank growth, and without support will fall over and spread on the ground just like any other sort; but like them, it may be trained to a pole or stake and trimmed to a single stem, thus making a "tree" tomato. For main crop, try the Matchless, or the Stone, or the Nickel Plate, or any of a number of others that might be named.

As to cabbages, plant Early Jersey Wake-

field for early, the Surehead or any other good strain of Flat Dutch for main crop. These varieties are reliable everywhere.

T. GREINER.

A PLANK MARKER.

For planters of small gardens, I will describe a home-made tool which I find very serviceable in planting small seeds, such as radish, onion, etc. Take a plank six or eight inches wide and one foot long. Hollow out the side that is intended to drag on the ground, and nail a small, sharp stick to it, which is intended to open a small furrow for the seeds. Attach a handle about five feet long to the top edge of the board, and pull it straight ahead over freshly plowed ground, and you will have a nice smooth ridge, with a small furrow on top to receive the seeds. To cover the seeds, remove the small stick, and drag the concern over the ridge again.

Texas.

L. L. ROBERTS.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

PEACH CULTURE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Mr. Edmund Hersey, of Higham, Mass., a peach grower of fifty years' standing, in an address on this subject before the Farmers' Meeting, in Boston, attributed one cause of failure in peach raising in that state to the change in planting the orchards—from natural seedlings grown for many generations in the North, and thus become hardy enough to endure a New England climate, to orchards of budded trees, grown for many generations in a warmer climate, and thus made too tender to stand the New England climate, except under the most favorable circumstances, and added: "A budded tree, wherever grown, is never as hardy as a natural seedling after it has become old, for it must be remembered that the budding of a tree is not the creation of a new life, but only the extension of an old one, the multiplication of life cells upon a different stock, and this means the multiplying of cells that may have already become diseased by contact with diseased stocks; for while a stock has but very little power to change the bud set in it, so far as it relates to the fruit it will produce, it has great power to transfer to it any disease which may exist in any part of its structure. If a stock that is budded has the yellows, the bud set in it will also have the yellows; so our budded trees are very much more likely to be weakened by the disease than are the natural trees grown from healthy seed."

Comparing the old and new methods of peach raising, the essayist said: "Whatever method we adopt, we must never lose sight of the fact that in New England we need to treat the peach-tree in a manner to secure the ripest wood and the most thoroughly developed buds. A careful observation of more than fifty years convinces me that the warm days in October and November are more destructive to the peach crop than the zero weather of mid-winter; and the more we force our trees, the more certain will be the destruction of the fruit-buds by the warm days of late autumn."

"The trees should be set from fifteen to eighteen feet apart, and if no hens are to run among them, the borers should be kept out of them by placing coarse sand or fine gravel around each tree in a manner to leave it in the form of a cone six inches high; this should be done early in May and kept around the tree until September, when it should be removed and the tree examined for borers; but if the work be properly done, and the sand or gravel be of a character to keep dry, no worms will be found; for if the miller should lay any eggs on the trunk of the tree above the sand, they will not hatch on the dry surface."

"When poultry is kept in sufficient numbers to keep the grass down, they will, as a rule, keep the borers out; no doubt this is done by catching the millers before they have a chance to lay any eggs. Fifty hens to the acre will do, but one hundred are better. Whatever number is kept, each acre should be divided into four parts; this is better for both the hens and the trees, but the flock should be divided and placed in two of the yards, the other two to be empty, changing often enough to keep the grass down. With one hundred hens to the acre, but little need be done to keep the land in good condition for the trees, even when bearing good crops, except to apply every year three hundred pounds of ground bone and two hundred pounds of muriate of potash to the acre."

As regards pruning, Mr. Hersey found from careful experiment that heading in peach-trees is an injury to them and lessens the quantity of fruit. He also believes that chemical manures are better for the peach-tree than barn manures.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Time to Cut Trees to Prevent Sprouts from the Stumps.—R. S., Plymouth, Iowa. In your section, about the tenth of July. It is when the trees have finished their quick growth and before the wood begins to harden. The time will vary somewhat in different years.

A Correction.—In a recent issue of FARM AND FIRESIDE I referred to Charles Green as having a list of nurserymen in the United States. This was a mistake. I should have referred to J. H. Hale, South Glastonbury, Connecticut, who made up the nursery census statistics. His list, however, is only up to 1890, when the census was taken.

Tree Wash.—J. T., La Crew, Iowa, writes: "1. Is soap made from potash or concentrated lye good to wash apple-trees with to keep out borers? 2. Does it benefit plum and cherry-trees to wash the trunks with soap, as it does apple-trees?"

REPLY:—1. Yes. 2. It prevents borers from working in them the same as it does in apple-trees.

Tree Wash.—H. S. P., Keswick, Virginia. If soap is applied to the trunks of trees in early summer it largely protects them from borers. Unleached wood ashes is one of the best fertilizers for these trees. Used in the form of lye and applied before the leaves start to the trunks and branches of the trees, it kills a good many insects that winter over on the bark.

Uncovering Strawberries.—C. H. W., Batesville, Ind. Where early strawberries are wanted, the straw is removed early in the spring. This also brings the flowers out early, when they are very liable in some sections to be injured by late frosts. My practice is to leave the straw over the plants until they start to grow, when it is drawn in between the rows, to serve as mulch in summer. Some care must be used to not leave the straw over the plants too late, or the leaves will turn white under it, and will be liable to sunburn when uncovered.

Vegetables Between Fruits—Berries in Rows.—J. McL., Hillsdale, Kansas, writes: "Can I raise vegetables between the rows of strawberries and raspberries?—How far apart should strawberries be planted?"

REPLY:—The strawberries need all the room, but vegetables might be safely planted between the raspberries for the first year, but afterward they will need all the room. In order to get the best growth on the berries, they should be continually cultivated during the summer, and vegetables that would prevent this should be avoided.—Berries cannot be grown to advantage except in rows. The raspberries should be planted in rows seven feet apart, and the strawberries in rows four feet apart.

Vegetables or Small Fruits Between Rows of Grapes.—N. A. V., Smithboro, Ill., writes: "1. I have grapes, gooseberries, blackberries, currants and raspberries, set in rows seven feet apart. The soil is rich and fertile. Would it be advisable to plant vegetables between the rows? 2. Would it do to set gooseberries and currants between the rows of grapes?"

REPLY:—1. See reply to J. McL. in this issue of FARM AND FIRESIDE. 2. It all depends on how far your grape rows are apart. If ten feet apart, it might be safe to plant gooseberries and currants between, providing the bushes were kept well cut in, and be all right in the home garden, but it would be a very poor plan in a vineyard of any considerable extent, unless the rows were more than ten feet apart. Grape roots run long distances, and the bushes between the rows would interfere with them and prevent a free circulation of air, which is necessary to ward off fungous diseases from grapes.

Wild Plum Grove.—R. C. W., Dassel, Minn., writes: "I desire to set out some plum-trees on a building spot on my farm. I have plenty of good wild trees in the woods, which I wish to utilize for a plum grove in front of the house. The soil is light and sandy. Please tell me how to proceed."

REPLY:—You could utilize the wild plums by grafting them with such hardy kinds as De Soto, Forest Garden and Cheney. These would give some fruit a year or two earlier than newly set trees. But as wild plum-trees are seldom just where you want them, and are difficult to cultivate, you had better set out a young orchard of the kinds mentioned on rich soil for a permanent orchard. The group of wild plums in front of your house is well worth saving, alone from the fact of its being so beautiful when in flower. The varieties of plums referred to can be obtained from most of the nurserymen in Minnesota and adjoining states.



Saved His Life

—by a fortunate discovery in the nick of time. Hundreds of persons suffering from consumption have had the progress of the disease stopped, and have been brought back to life and health by the "Golden Medical Discovery" of Dr. Pierce.

Years ago Dr. R. V. Pierce, now chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute of Buffalo, N. Y., recognizing the fact that consumption was essentially a germ disease, and that a remedy which would drive the germs and their poisons from the blood would cure consumption, at last found a medicine which cured 98 per cent. of all cases, if taken in the earlier stages of the disease.

The tissues of the lungs being irritated by the germs and poisons in the blood circulating through them, the germs find lodgment there, and the lungs begin to break down. Soon the general health begins to fail, and the person feels languid, weak, faint, drowsy and confused.

This is the time to take Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery; it drives the germs and poisons from the blood, and has a soothing effect upon the dry cough. In cases of bronchitis the "Discovery" is invaluable.

"Golden Medical Discovery" increases the amount and quality of the blood, thus invigorating and fortifying the system against disease and builds up wholesome flesh and strength after wasting diseases, as fevers, pneumonia, grip and other debilitating affections.

JNO. M. HITE, of Audubon, Audubon Co., Ia., says: "I took a severe cold which settled on my lungs and chest, and I suffered intensely with it. I tried several of our best physicians here and they gave up all hopes of my recovery, and thought I would have to die. I would cough and spit blood for hours, and I was pale and weak. I was greatly discouraged when I began the use of the 'Discovery,' but I soon got better. It has been five years since I took it and have had no return of that trouble since."



J. M. HITE, Esq.

Our Farm.

CRIMSON CLOVER.

CRIMSON clover—or, as it is sometimes called, scarlet, Italian or German clover—is beginning to claim more or less attention from farmers in the northern states. That it is a valuable plant in localities where it will thrive to advantage cannot be doubted. Whether it will prove satisfactory in this latitude is another question, but I believe if the autumn is such as to give it proper moisture to germinate the seeds and keep the plants thriving until well established, it may be grown to advantage within the borders of Ohio and other states of equal latitude.

I sowed five acres last season, at five different times, but owing to the prevailing dry weather, much of it failed to get established. It would start the first light shower, grow nicely for a few weeks, and then wither and die. A few places where the soil was more moist it continued to grow until the severe winter's cold caused it to nestle down near the soil and cease growing, though it remained perfectly green until the first heavy snows came. I was somewhat solicitous concerning it during the severe weather when the temperature reached eighteen to twenty degrees below zero, but as the snows disappeared, the clover-plants were to be seen as nice and green as in November. While the medium clover has been raised in some places an inch or more by the action of the frost, the plants of the crimson clover have not been raised in the least, and yet it is in soil that would be more easily acted upon in this way.

Had I not been disappointed in getting my seed at the time it was desired, results might have been different. Had it been sown the last of June and received the benefits of the week's rain we had in harvest, it would no doubt have become well enough established to have withstood the dry weather of July and August. I am not at all discouraged in the matter, and shall sow again the coming season. My friend J. E. Wing, of Champaign county, has grown it two years on his bottom lands, and is greatly pleased with the results.

It is not expected to replace the medium clover, but to fill a field distinctly its own. If it can be sown in the corn-fields and potato-fields at the last cultivation, make a fair growth during the late summer and fall months, and make an early start in the spring, so as to afford a crop of green manure to plow under, with its accumulated nitrogen, then it has fulfilled a good mission, and deserves a place in the list of profitable crops. JOHN L. SHAWVER.
Logan county, Ohio.

THE GRANGE AS A HELPER.

It must be admitted that farmers and their families do not have the advantages of those living in the large towns and cities. This should not be so, and if the teachings of the Grange were fully carried out, it would not be. The farmer should have all the advantages within the reach of the merchant or professional man. In point of fact, he is entitled to even more social and educational advantages, to counterbalance the comparative isolation incident to farm life.

"Our wants are the measure of our civilization." What our forefathers considered as luxuries have become every-day necessities for our comfort. As a rule, we do live better, dress better, expend more money for things our fathers would have done without. The times seem to require that we should have more leisure time for mental improvement, social recreation, music and other accomplishments. After all, is not this as it should be? K.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM MASSACHUSETTS.—"Abandoned" farms in New England are getting to be much scarcer than a few years ago. In the old Bay state nearly or quite all have been bought up and occupied, either for cultivation or for summer residences by New England people. Those who have a taste and skill for farming are coming to the conclusion that this is about as eligible a location as almost any part of our

country. Markets for farm produce are near at hand, and as good as can be found anywhere. Besides, there are many social and intellectual advantages in most of our New England rural towns that our farmers would be likely to miss if they should remove to almost any other part of the country. Not only do we have the best of free schools, but the farmers have the best of opportunities for social intercourse, and beneficial discussions of agricultural, horticultural and kindred topics, in the Grange meetings, farmers' clubs, horticultural societies, winter meetings, agricultural institutes and market gardeners' association meetings, etc. During the winter season those who have the leisure can (in this locality at least) attend from two to four such meetings and discussions each week, without traveling more than three or four miles. Some of the farmers' clubs hold evening meetings once in two weeks, alternating from house to house, closing the winter's meetings by an annual supper. Other clubs hold an all-day meeting at the center of the town, having a warm dinner on the picnic plan. Our horticultural society, in winter, holds weekly afternoon lectures at their own hall in the city, all of which lectures are printed at the society's expense for distribution among the members and their friends. These lectures are now, more and more each year, largely by home talent, which has proven quite as entertaining and instructive as those by more distant celebrities. This horticultural society (now fifty-three years old) expends each year some \$2,000 in premiums and gratuities for weekly summer exhibitions of flowers, fruits and vegetables. The exhibits are free to the public. A two days' fruit convention in the society's hall is now (March 20th and 21st) in session, with a probability that it will result in the organization of a Massachusetts fruit growers' association. Market gardeners have had an unusual demand for lettuce from Philadelphia and New York this winter, owing largely to the severe freezes in December and February through all the southern states clear to the Gulf. The greenhouse gardeners grow from two to three crops of lettuce in winter in their houses, and follow these by early cucumbers. New England grown lettuce is in great demand in winter in all the cities from New York to Washington, as well as in our own home markets. The old-fashioned winter hotbeds are fast giving way to greenhouses heated by hot water and steam, for lettuce culture in midwinter. The old frames are brought into requisition about February, and thence on are in demand for lettuce, tomato and cabbage plants until May, when they are filled with cucumbers. From April to November, New England climate can hardly be excelled. From November to April, the lettuce growers keep a Florida climate in their greenhouses, where their busy winter gardening is carried on with much more comfort and pleasure than by the old hotbed frames. S. H. R.

Worcester, Mass.

FROM ALABAMA.—I live on Lookout mountain. We have beautifully located undulating table-lands, not suitable for farming purposes, unless highly fertilized either with home-made or commercial fertilizers. There is no lime in our soil, and the persistent yearly burning off of the native grass, leaves, etc., has robbed the land of its strength for growing cultivated crops. I call attention to the fact that the native grasses, brush, browse and weeds, and dry, sandy, clay land, with no dead water, makes this the home of the sheep industry, but sheep would have to be herded every day. The native sheep would have to be crossed with the fine wool Merinos of large size for paying results. I wish to call the attention of those intending to come to this country to build up homes. If you have capital enough to pay for your home, and pay all expenses of your living until you have harvested your first crop; if you are persistent workers and good managers, and are willing to take advice and instructive pointers from those who have been here and have passed through the "mill," then come, and we will welcome you and receive you as a friend. This is no place for the laborer who has no ready means in cash to carry him over. After coming, give yourselves time to acquaint yourselves with this country. It will cost you almost nothing to wait, and may be worth thousands of dollars to you, and by so doing you can secure a good deed to your purchase from the sky down to the center of the earth. There is free range for stock, and will continue to be for years to come. Old government pensioners are numerous in this county, and have a G. A. R. post at Fort Payne. R. M. S.
Laurel, Ala.

FROM GEORGIA.—Banks county is situated in the northeastern portion of Georgia, south of the Blue Ridge mountains. The climate is delightful, and one of the most healthful on earth. The surface of the country is hilly and rolling, interspersed with streams, flowing from north to south, which might easily become available for manufacturing purposes of almost any kind. Homer, the county-seat, is a village of three hundred inhabitants, situated near the center of the county, seven miles from the Northeastern railroad. The surrounding country is fine cotton land. The farmers have heretofore paid more attention to cotton than is really good for them, and they are rapidly changing to stock farming, fruit growing, etc. Apples, peaches,

pears, etc., grow well in this county. The small fruits, such as plums, strawberries, raspberries and grapes of all kinds, seem to grow and bear fine crops without much attention. It is nothing uncommon to find strawberries of fine flavor growing wild in this section in old fields and on roadsides. Blackberries are found in abundance, growing wild. A boy or girl may go into an old field and pick two or three gallons of blackberries almost any evening in early summer-time. The great trouble with our people is that they have not realized that other crops are more profitable in the long run than cotton. Cotton is the watchword. How much cotton are you going to plant? If the cotton craze ever gets out of the minds of the people of this section they will soon grow rich. For the most part we have small farms. This renders the country very diversified in appearance. Fields every mile or so between patches of woodland, with schools and churches on every road. No child has to go more than two miles to school, and the people are rapidly taking advantage of modern methods in education as in other things. Land is cheap here, and great inducements are offered for settlers. Homer, Ga. V. D.

FROM VIRGINIA.—I am a native of Pennsylvania, and have lived in Virginia for seven years. I know whereof I speak when I say that for healthfulness, climate and location this country cannot be excelled by any east of the Rocky mountains. The land, naturally fertile, has been somewhat run down, but can easily be improved. The land will produce, with good farming, from 60 to 100 bushels of corn per acre; 20 to 40 bushels of wheat; 30 to 60 and 80 bushels of oats; and 1 to 5 tons of hay. I have seen these yields, as I helped to do the farming. Dairying is a very profitable industry here. Fruit growing is a paying business. Taxes are low and land is cheap. Winters are mild and short. I am not a land agent, but a resident here, and I want to see this country filled up with industrious farmers. Western and northern people are coming already, and we now have a colony of good farmers, but there is room for more. I. W. T.
Bealeton, Va.

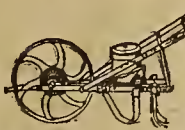
FROM NEBRASKA.—Wayne county is one of the best counties in northeastern Nebraska. We were affected some by the drought, but not so much as the western part of the state. We have prospects of a good crop this season. We never had a failure of crops in Wayne county since I can remember. Corn, wheat and oats are our main crops. Tame grass does not do as well as in other parts, but we have plenty of wild grass, and the stock does better on that than tame grass. Good, well-improved farms bring from \$28 to \$35 per acre. Wayne is our county-seat, and has a population of about 2,500. It has good waterworks and good streets, six churches, four banks, and stores of all kinds. Wayne county is a good place for a person with small means. I have known some to run in debt for everything to start farming with, but that is not a good plan. Wayne, Neb. J. T. S.

FROM ALABAMA.—Mentone is on the west brow of Lookout mountain, on the A. G. S. railroad, forty miles from Chattanooga. The soil here, while not naturally rich, is quite as good as any of the plateau lands of the South. When well treated, it produces abundantly of almost everything that is produced in the temperate regions. The free range for cattle on the natural grasses in the woods is good. We are well supplied with springs of good water, both freestone and mineral. The climate is very healthful, and especially so for people with weak lungs. Our land titles are good. We have no saloons. Our people are orderly and not given to lawlessness. We have a number of northern people already, and more are locating here. Lands are cheap here. Mentone, Ala. C. N. M.

FROM WASHINGTON.—Elberton, situated at the confluence of the Palouse river and Silver creek, is a beautiful little town of about 300 inhabitants. This is the finest small grain country on the coast. Corn does not grow well. All kinds of vegetables grow to perfection. As far as I have been able to test it, this is a fine place for bees. S. C. F.
Elberton, Washington.

CROUP IS QUICKLY RELIEVED, and Whooping Cough greatly helped, and its duration shortened by Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, the old family stand-by for Coughs and Colds, and all Lung and Throat affections.

R. C. B. Leghorn Eggs, \$1.50 per 26, from hens averaging 242 eggs per year. J. A. Hall, Auburn, W. Va.



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BERKSHIRE, Chester White, Jersey Red and Poland China PIGS. Jersey, Guernsey and Holstein Cattle. Thoroughbred Sheep. Fancy Poultry. Hunting and House Dogs. Catalogue.

S. W. SMITH, Cochranville, Chester Co., Penna.

"GENTLEMEN:—Regarding prospects for the coming year, we would say, we hope to double our last year's output of Aeromotors, or, at least, as we have done in the past, sell twenty-four out of every twenty-five windmills that are sold. Since commencing the sale in 1889, WE HAVE SOLD ABOUT

500 AERMOTORS

We do not attribute this fairly good record entirely to our efforts, but to the superiority of the goods which you make. BUAALL & DAVIS, Urbana, Ill., February 18, 1895."

GENTLEMEN: We bought and put up Aeromotor No. 2, and out of the first fifty which you made we had thirteen. Since that time we have sold about

400 AERMOTORS

In our small territory is represented the history of the Aeromotor and the Aeromotor Company from the beginning to the present hour. That history is one of unbroken triumph. Aside from the Aeromotor there have been but few other windmills put up enough with which to show the infinite superiority of the Aeromotor in design, finish (all galvanized), and ability to run when all others stand still. We should have sold more, supplied with wind power, it being only 66 miles years been the battle ground largest, best known and panies, all being located MUCH OF OUR BUSINESS FLACKING WOODEN AND TORY WHEELS WITH you have during the past year surpassed any previous year's record by you expect to double your coming year. Count on us for the Aeromotor never stood farther above all competitors in reputation and in fact than to-day. Since & Balzer, Marengo, Ill., February 25, 1895." In another Aeromotor advertisement, which every one should read, we offer for

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three way force pump. All dealers should have it or can get it to sell at that price. All Aeromotor men will have it. In still another ad. appears our offer of galvanized steel tanks at 25c. per gallon. They neither shrink, leak, rust, nor make water taste bad. Aeromotor Co., Chicago.

For easy work and big pay, agents should write to the publishers of Farm and Fireside. Full particulars sent free to any address.

Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammon, New Jersey.

BONE WITH CRUSHED SHELL.

Lr will be remembered by the readers of our paper that an experiment was started November 1st, to test the value of green bone as a food for laying hens. The experiment was started with four divisions, and two pens in each division, one of old hens and one of pullets, ten to each pen; first division receiving green ground bone, crushed oyster-shell and gravel; second division receiving green ground bone and gravel; third division receiving crushed oyster-shell and gravel; fourth division receiving gravel only.

Table showing weekly results from November 1st to January 24th, inclusive:

I		II		III		IV	
DIVISION		DIVISION		DIVISION		DIVISION	
10 P.	10 H.	10 P.	10 H.	10 P.	10 H.	10 P.	10 H.
7	3	12	0	6	0	10	0
5	1	9	2	3	0	4	0
5	0	6	2	2	0	0	1
4	4	5	3	4	0	0	1
17	13	8	4	4	0	0	5
20	13	12	12	7	0	2	4
11	14	9	9	2	0	2	1
5	7	1	10	7	0	1	0
6	0	3	13	4	0	4	0
12	3	10	11	9	2	4	0
18	1	15	5	12	1	9	1
30	5	25	9	19	1	16	0
140	64	115	80	79	4	52	13
	204		195		83		65

Eggs were worth two cents each on the average during the trial.

First division received 14 pounds raw ground bone, 2 pounds oyster-shells and all the gravel they wanted.

Second division received 14 pounds raw ground bone and all the gravel they wanted.

Third division received 6 pounds oyster-shells and gravel.

Fourth division received nothing but gravel.

Counting bone at three cents per pound and shells at two cents, the hens with bones more than doubled in value of eggs either those of shell or nothing.

There was enough difference in those fed shell to more than pay for the shell, but leaves a narrow margin when fed with bone. While those fed bone more than doubled on those fed nothing, or we could have afforded to pay twenty cents per pound for the raw ground bone. But this is not all; the hens receiving bone have a much better plumage, and are standing the winter much better. We hope to draw many valuable conclusions from this experiment when it is finished.

It might not be out of place to mention that these hens have not been out of their 7x8-foot pens for about a month; before this time they had had the run of a yard 6x16 feet, giving all exactly the same chance to exercise.—*Agricultural Student.*

A LACK OF LIME.

While corn is a food that has its mission in winter, it will do more harm than good when continued steadily on into spring. Wheat may be classed with corn. These grains are good because they are concentrated, and enable the hens to eat enough from which to derive their warmth, but though they contain a proportion of nitrogen, they are very deficient in the mineral elements. There is less than a pound of lime in one thousand pounds of wheat, and if a hen is compelled to subsist on grain entirely, how is it possible for her to furnish eggs, which are not only covered with a shell of lime, but also contain within themselves the substances that are changed into bone, blood, flesh and fat.

LANDS FOR SALE

AT LOW PRICES AND ON EASY TERMS.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company offers for sale on easy terms and at low prices, 150,000 acres of choice fruit, gardening, farm and grazing lands located in SOUTHERN ILLINOIS. They are also largely interested in, and call especial attention to the 600,000 acres of land in the famous YAZOO DELTA of Mississippi, lying along and owned by the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad Company, and which that Company offers at low prices and on long terms. Special inducements and facilities offered to go and examine these lands both in Southern Illinois and in the "Yazoo Delta," Miss. For further description, map and any information, address or call upon E. P. SKENE, Land Commissioner, No. 1 Park Row, Chicago, Ill.; or, G. W. MCGINNIS, Asst. Land Commissioner, Memphis, Tenn.

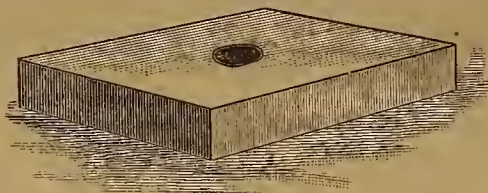
VALUE OF CLOVER HAY FOR POULTRY.

It is only recently that clover hay has been found to be the cheapest and best winter food for laying hens, and that by its use the great difficulty of procuring green food is overcome. In fact, the essential want of hens in winter is not so much that of green food as of bulky food of a nitrogenous character. For many years the writers and breeders have made a specialty of recommending all kinds of grain for poultry, the only variation being that at certain times some of it was to be whole grain and at other times soft food was to be given. It did not occur to them that the effects of a long-continued diet of grain was as injurious to fowls as to cattle, and that the concentrated grain food gave the best results when diluted (if we may use the expression) with some kind of bulky material, which not only promoted digestion, but also largely assisted in supplying the elements necessary for the albumen of the eggs, which was lacking in the carbonaceous food of the grains.

Another important advantage in the feeding of clover hay is that it abounds in mineral matter, thus providing lime in a soluble condition for the shells, and in supplying the bony structure for the chicks in the eggs. The phosphates, salt, soda, magnesia, iron and nitrogen are easiest obtained from the grasses, but in less proportion than from brau, or some product of the preparation of grau. Yet it is less concentrated and more soluble, while the fowls can consume a much larger quantity. To attempt to feed clover, however, without grain as an assistant would be going to the other extreme; and hence, the best results can only be obtained from a mixed or balanced ration, by which the laying hens are supplied with food abounding in all the elements essential to the production of eggs, as well as to supply the hens with animal heat and to repair waste of tissue.

OYSTER-CAN FOUNTAIN FOR CHICKS.

A cheap contrivance for supplying water to little chicks, so as to prevent them from getting wet, is sent by Mr. L. Benedict, Michigan. Take an oyster-can and cut an opening on one side, as illustrated. It can-



OYSTER-CAN FOUNTAIN FOR CHICKS.

not be turned over, and water will not spill out when carrying it. When full it will hold enough water for about fifteen chicks one day. It will cost but little, as it can be made of any size by a tinner in a short time, if desired of larger capacity.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A REMEDY FOR ROUP.—I am a subscriber for both of your valuable papers, and very often see inquiries what to do for roup. You say there is not very much that can be done. Permit me to tell you what I have done and what I have seen others do for it, and never saw the remedy fail. Smoke the fowls with sulphur at night, after they go to roost, but be careful not to suffocate them. Use about one teaspoonful of sulphur. Take an old pan with coals in it and sprinkle a little sulphur at a time, standing outside yourself. Shut the door, and allow about ten minutes to smoke them. I had roup in my flock once and lost forty before I knew what to do. I tried this remedy, and not one died after that.

Moon Valley, Miss. MRS. J. J. G.

HOW TO INDUCE CHICKENS TO EAT.—Please tell C. C. E., Southington, Conn., that if he will put the oats in a large meat-box, or box of any kind, and throw the oats in loose, he will see how quickly the chickens will scratch for them. I write from experience. My chickens are fed on whole corn, and when I have no green oats (as the case is now), I have a lot of shattered oats, keeping some in a box all of the time, and I have never seen the box without chickens in it scratching, unless they have gone to roost. I tried the plan of feeding them oats, and they would not eat them; so I just put them in a box and forgot to cover them up, and that is how I learned how they liked them. I always keep them busy. The same way with everything but grain. If they think you do not want them to have it, rest assured they will eat it. I had a large patch of turnips. I boiled a lot and tried to feed them to the chickens, but they would not touch them. I then boiled a lot for our hogs, and just imagine my surprise to see every chicken trying to get at the turnips and eating them as fast as they could; so I have come to the conclusion that chickens are like children—what you want them to eat they do not want (or rather, your way of giving they

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do not like), but if they think you do not want them to have it, they are sure to eat it up, and clean, too.

Temon, Ia.

MRS. L. P. L.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Rye for Poultry.—D. C. A., Momequah, Ill., writes: "Is rye suitable for hens when fed alone, or should it be fed with corn?"

REPLY:—Rye is suitable for poultry, but should be fed with other grains by way of variety.

Aylesbury Ducks.—"Subscriber" writes: "I had a breed of ducks larger than the Pekins, pure white, the bills pinkish instead of yellow; the feet and legs were also the same color. What breed were they?"

REPLY:—The breed was the Aylesbury. They have flesh-colored bills and legs.

Eggs or Market Fowls.—Mrs. K. J. S., Allegheny, Pa., writes: "Which breed of chickens are the best for eggs and market?"

REPLY:—The Brown Leghorns and Minorcas are probably among the best layers. The Plymouth Rocks are highly esteemed for market. No single breed combines both qualities.

Lice.—W. J. O., Baileyville, Kan., writes: "How are chicken-lice propagated? Will they live over winter, and what will destroy them?"

REPLY:—They hatch from eggs, and live over winter in warm, snug places in the walls or cracks. They are destroyed very easily with kerosene emulsion.

Egg Eating.—H. S., Mascoutah, Ill., writes: "My chickens are eating their eggs. Is there a remedy?"

REPLY:—It is a habit due to idleness principally. The best experiment to try is to make the nests one foot high off the ground, open at one end so the hens will have to walk in. They cannot then easily reach their eggs.

Sex of Guineas.—E. L. C., Silver Creek, Neb., writes: "How can I distinguish the common speckled male white Guinea from the females?"

REPLY:—The male is more carunculated. However, the proper way to distinguish them is by the voice; it is the female that always makes the well-known cry of "Come back! Come back!"

Testing and Preserving Eggs.—Mrs. W. H. A., Amos, W. Va., writes: "Is there any sure way of packing eggs to keep them from spoiling? How can eggs be tested to know if they are good? Are there any machines for testing eggs? Can you give a method of preserving eggs?"

REPLY:—Eggs are tested by looking through them, the egg between the eye and a strong light; but the proper way is to procure a good egg-tester, which can be had from any seedsmen or incubator manufacturer. Eggs can be preserved several months by keeping them in a cool place and turning them half over twice a week.

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SUNNYSIDE POULTRY FARM Leghorns, Wyandottes, B. P. Rocks, \$1.00 per 13; Minorcas and Red Caps, \$2.00 per 13. Circular. H. T. ANDERSON & CO., Natrona, Pa.

EGGS FOR HATCHING. B. P. Rocks, B. Langshans, Indian and Pit Games, Pekin Ducks, Embden and Toulouse Geese, \$1 and \$2 for 15. G. 20c. each. A few Indian cockerels for sale, \$2 each. T. Barner, Altoona, Pa.

THOROUGHBORED Buff, W. and B. P. Rocks, Buff, W. and P. Cochins, Buff and S. C. B. Leghorns, Ind. Games, B. Minorcas and W. A. Guineas. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$2.50 per 40. Valuable book free. Harry Frick, Line Lexington, Pa.

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SAVE THE CHICKS This is the danger season, without special care you will lose them. Our new Book SUCCESSFUL POULTRY REARING tells all how to feed and what to do. It will help you. Every farmer and poultry keeper needs it. Sent by mail postpaid, with Illustrated Monthly, "WAYSIDE CLEANINGS," three months for 10 cents. Address: W. G. Publisher, Clintonville, Conn.

SHOEMAKER'S POULTRY BOOK The finest on earth, 64 pages printed in colors. Photo Engravings of the largest Poultry Farm in the Northwest. Description and prices of all varieties, over 70 fine drawings of you want one; only 15c. C. C. SHOEMAKER, Freeport, Ill.

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Mention Farm and Fireside when you write.

Our Fireside.

The Old Manor-house in Louisiana.

BY SARA H. HENTON.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE tall, soldierly man, with his gravely quiet air, attracted the attention of more than one person on the beach, as he strolled out for his early morning walk. Was he a widower, or was he a married man? He was a new arrival, of that they were quite sure, and was distinguished-looking.

The colonel felt as though he were in Elysium in such an atmosphere, such a hopeful haven. He was sure, since he had seen Pauline, that he had done the right thing in coming. He feared she would look coldly on his visit, coming so soon after her return home; but her pale face and thin form assured him that his impulse to fly to her at once was well founded. He had lost his wife with the fatal malady of consumption, and knew all about its rapid inroads. He did not have long to meditate over his good fortune in coming, before some one clasped his hands from behind and held them fast, saying:

"It's me, Colonel Gibson! Look, look!"

"Oh, Jack, you rascal! What are you doing up so early?"

"I brought mama out for a walk. She comes every morning with me."

Colonel Gibson awaited her approach, watching her slow walk, her pretty, fresh gown of black and white muslin, with a black sash, marking out her slender figure; her straw hat, trimmed with black lace, broad-brimmed, cast a shadow over her sweet, grave face and tender, brown eyes and delicate mouth, producing an impression of harmony over his senses.

"I think your journey benefited you, colonel," she said, looking up into his genial face.

"It was not the journey. It is your company, and the reception you gave me, that has put new life into my veins," returned the colonel, looking her full in the face. "You must not think me presuming on old friendship, Pauline, if I ask you to be just and generous and listen to me. Your health is very necessary to so many lives."

"There comes Bessie, to call us to breakfast. Don't frighten her about my health, for it will make her miserable," said Mrs. Howe.

The colonel and Bessie exchanged greetings, and all started back toward their cottage. Enid stood on the piazza, looking exquisitely lovely in a delicate pink mull morning gown.

"Now, mother," she said, "you have walked too far. I will have to keep a close watch on you."

How pale and slight she looked beside the grandeur of Enid's beauty! Yet Colonel Gibson felt it would be worth a lifetime to win her heart, to read responsive tenderness in her eyes, to feel the rapture of her dear caress. He felt he had not been as guarded as he should. Perhaps her evident delight at seeing him might be for old times' sake. He must not make a second mistake.

He was struck day by day with her changed appearance. Her face looked thin, her fine color was gone, except when the fever or flush was apparent. He took her out driving, sometimes with the girls and Jack.

One evening they returned from a drive they had taken alone, and the girls noted a change in their mother. She looked very much excited, but prettier than they had seen her for years—a soft light in her eyes, a delicate crimson staining her cheek. After lifting Mrs. Howe out and leading her into the little parlor, the colonel came to her side, and taking both her hands in his, said:

"Pauline, may I speak? What do you wish, dear?"

She raised her eyes steadily to his, and said with almost solemnly:

"As you wish, Harry."

"My dear girls," he said, drawing their mother gently to him, "I am rewarded at last with your dear mother's love, and I think I deserve it. Won't you love me, too, and be my children?"

That was a great day at the cottage; there were tears shed, but there were rejoicings and tender amens. It was not altogether unexpected to the girls, after his coming North so speedily on hearing of her ill health. They saw then that he loved her—it was shown in

every glance. They hoped much from his influence. He insisted upon being married quietly at the little chapel near by, and wrote to Frank to come as soon as possible.

The days succeeding this sudden and important change in Mrs. Howe's life flew by with surprising rapidity. She yielded every wish to Colonel Gibson's judgment, and he managed coming events with judicious facility. He wrote Frank to come immediately, and Bessie told him to have Frank bring Cecil Howard with him.

When Frank Gibson received his father's letter, he was spending a few days in New Orleans, with his friend Lawrence Hunt. He

her for it. Determined to learn my fate, I went to Brompton, only to find my rival ahead of me. I was announced unexpectedly, and from what I saw, felt convinced she loved him. It was a terrible blow to me, and I returned to New Orleans, living the life of a hermit since."

"Lawrence Hunt, I believe you are wrong. Something has gone wrong with Enid. Bessie could never divine it. She did not love Randolph, for he never came back after that evening you speak of. Don't you suppose an affianced lover would have been there day after day, as he had been for two months previous?"

and self-control, he believed she could love deeply, tenderly; while she was so guarded, still those fine eyes of hers would speak.

"Miss Enid, I have been very unhappy for the past few months—life wasn't worth the living—and you were the cause."

"That is strange," said Enid, low and earnestly.

"You know that Shakspeare said, 'Trifles light as air are to the jealous, confirmation strong as proofs of holy writ.' I was a jealous lover. I loved you, Enid, and thought you loved another. I came to declare my love, and I saw—saw—"

"Oh, please do not mention it, Mr. Hunt!"

"Certainly not, if you wish," he said, haughtily.

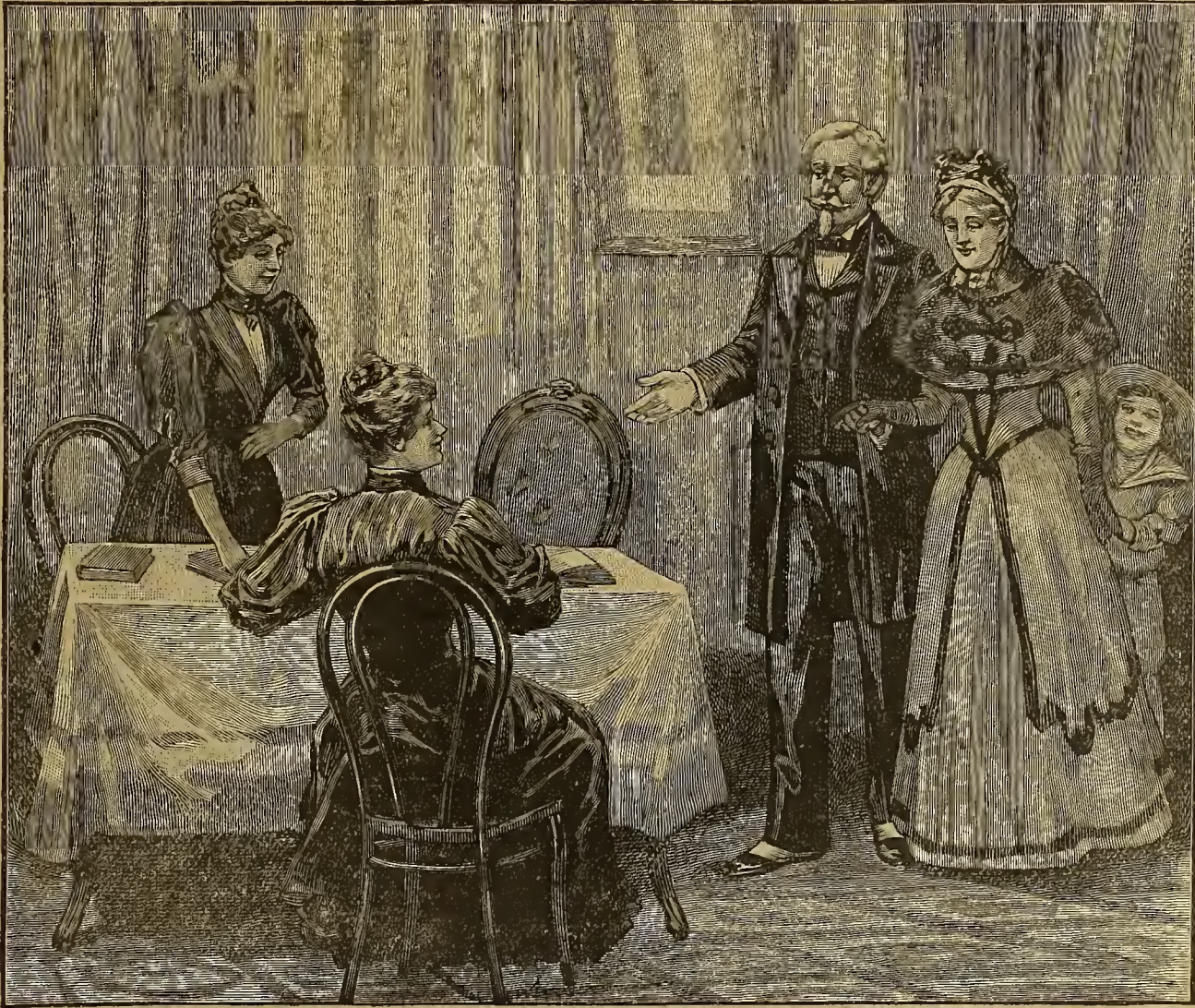
He felt then that it would be worth a lifetime to win her heart, to read love written in her eyes. Was she indifferent? He was proud, but not too proud to sue for her love. It was best to know, and he would know, if she would but speak. She must!

Had she betrayed her weakness? she thought. Did he feel a pity for her? Her heart beat so loudly she thought he certainly could hear its throbbings. "If I thought he had read my secret and considered it a duty he owed me to return my affection, I would crush it out with my life."

"Enid, I have never loved but one woman. Let me tell you my story."

She had looked so embarrassed, and been quiet so long, he waited awhile before saying anything; and then it did seem as if the most fastidious woman could not have helped being charmed with the protestations of love he poured into her ears. She felt the charm in his voice, his manner, his conversation, at all times, but now it was simply perfect. She turned upon him a face radiantly triumphant. Was it conscious power? he thought. But no, all her pride melted before his truthful avowal. She felt it, believed him, and now she knew he did not act a part. Had she been more versed in love affairs she would have known he never dreamed of her secret love for him.

From that moment Lawrence Hunt began quite unconsciously to change from the friend to the passionate lover. Enid had wanted a few days of secrecy, of bliss, to dream over her engagement, to hug to herself



"MY DEAR GIRLS," HE SAID, "I AM REWARDED AT LAST WITH YOUR DEAR MOTHER'S LOVE."

read aloud to Mr. Hunt a part of his father's letter, which created quite a little flutter of excitement, and contained a message to Mr. Hunt. It read thus:

"I do not know whether my letter will be a surprise to you or not. I fancy you have interpreted the cause of my coming here so suddenly. I found Mrs. Howe much changed, and her physician had brought her here himself. In conversing with him, he did not give much hope, unless the utmost care and watchfulness on the part of those who loved her were exercised. I think you have heard, my son, that we were sweethearts as children, and my meeting her again last winter convinced me that she alone could make me happy. I had never thought of marriage until I saw her. Her joy in seeing me this time was so genuine, and the children were so demonstrative, that it gave me new courage. But for her delicate health, I would not have proposed to her until after you and Bessie were united. I must do all I can to help her regain her health, and in no way can I take such care of her except as her husband, that I may watch over her day and night. If she lives but a short time, I will have the happiness of being with her. We will be married at the little Episcopal chapel near here. I would like to have Lawrence Hunt come with you. He generally comes North about this time of the year, anyway, and I think the girls would enjoy seeing him. Come at once. Bessie is as happy as a child at the very thought of your coming."

"Look here, old boy," said Frank, "pack your valise and we'll start from here. To be sure, it will cut short my visit, but if Mrs. Howe should die, or get worse, father would never forgive me for delaying here a day. He will wait until we come, and he has written for you."

Lawrence Hunt seemed unusually agitated, and said:

"Frank, there is no one that I would rather see happily married than your father; but I don't know about my reception—I might not be welcome. I remember very vividly how I broke in upon a love scene on one occasion at Brompton; and to tell you my secret, Frank, I had a faint hope that Miss Enid cared for me. I never met a lady with whom I was so completely in love. I couldn't leave her. I felt drawn to her the first day I met her, and the night of your german I was captivated. She was so simple and noble in her nature—hadn't a particle of coquetry in her composition—neither Randolph nor I could tell whether she cared more for one than the other. She treated us fairly, and I admired

"You don't pretend to say, Frank, that Randolph has never been back since?"

"Not once, and Enid changed very perceptibly. I do not know that she loved any one, and she certainly did not encourage Randolph. I think she dismissed him."

"Gibson, I am going with you to New York. I can be ready to go on the five-o'clock train this evening."

"All right, my boy. Father will appreciate your coming, and I believe somebody-else will be glad, too; but I won't tell tales out of school," said Frank, laughing.

In a very short time these two young men had made all arrangements to take the trip. One was as merry as a school-boy, the other hopeful, cheerful, thoughtful.

Arriving at their destination, they were met by Colonel Gibson, who greeted them cordially.

"Well, it is almost too much for an old fellow's balance," he said, shaking hands with the boys. "Why, the pleasure has just struck me dumb. I thought you would grant an old man's request and come, Lawrence."

Mrs. Howe extended an invitation to the young gentlemen to stay at her cottage, which they declined, stopping at the hotel.

The girls looked for Frank and Cecil, and were very much surprised at Mr. Hunt's coming. Cecil's mother was not willing for her to come just then; she thought best to have her come later, then she could kill two birds with one stone, for there was a trousseau to be gotten for her, too.

The boys were amply repaid for their long travel, in the hearty reception by the entire family—Bessie flushed, brilliant, and in the highest glee, Enid more cordial than was expected, Mrs. Howe gracious and lovely, Jack noisy and happy. It was a merry party that met on the piazza of the Woodbine cottage.

Bessie adroitly got Frank off to herself, and called her mother and the colonel out of the night air, leaving Enid and Mr. Hunt alone.

"Do you think mother has changed much, Mr. Hunt?" said Enid, timidly.

"Yes, Miss Enid, she looks lovelier, but so frail, yet I think the sea-air will bring her out all right."

"Oh, do you feel so? I dread to think of her getting excited. You know, to-morrow is her wedding-day."

"Yes; that is partly what brought me, Miss Enid."

But a deeper motive lay behind it. Nothing short of true love would satisfy the strong passion which had taken such deep root in his heart and permeated his whole being. While Enid possessed the charm of reserve



HER ENTRANCE

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the precious memory of that starlit night that would forever be remembered. While Lawrence consented, he did not hide it a moment from any of them. He could not.

The next day was a beautiful one, and in the afternoon they all walked over to the chapel, where the colonel and Mrs. Howe were quietly married, by the rector who had dined with them. She looked very pretty, though at the colonel's request she wore her violet-colored gown, in which he had first seen her after her return to Brompton. All that was lacking was the beaming face of Mammy Rhody, and they all wished she was there.

One morning at the breakfast-table, shortly after the wedding, when they were all discussing plans for the winter, Dr. Frank said he believed every soul there was pining for Brompton and Norfolk air, and proposed a double wedding, under a marriage-bell of orange blossoms grown on the trees of Mammy Rhody's planting. The colonel and Lawrence Hunt were heartily in favor of the proposition, and Jack gave three cheers for it. Needless to say, the girls consented to the arrangement.

It was a gorgeous autumn. Already the glowing, flaming colors of the fall had begun to touch the woods here and there.

The girls thought best for their mother to remain at Woodbine with the colonel and Jack, while they returned to New York to do their shopping preparatory to coming events. Bessie wrote for Mrs. Howard and Cecil to come and make them a visit before their return South, and they accepted the invitation.

Then followed happy days—days long remembered. Lawrence Hunt and Frank Gibson remained in the city ten days, and sight-seeing, operas, concerts, drives, etc., occupied a larger part of their time, with Mrs. Howard as chaperon. Cecil's lover was there, too; and as this was her first visit to New York, she was delighted. She said she could not understand how the girls contented themselves at Brompton.

The lovely October days passed rapidly. The boys had returned to the South—Frank to prepare Norfolk for his bride, although she protested that she wanted it to remain as it was. It being Mrs. Gibson's desire to live and die at Brompton, the colonel turned Norfolk over to Frank, remarking that it didn't make much difference, as the estates joined. And rumor had already reached New Orleans that Lawrence Hunt would bring home a bride in the fall from New York; that the indifferent, elegant lawyer had found some one just suited to his taste.

Mammy Rhody's prophecy was coming true—there would be three brides, for the little bird had flown three times around the house at Brompton.

Words cannot picture the lovely trio wedding. Romantic Bessie would have it her way, and Enid, Cecil and herself were married in the saloon parlor of the old manor-house, under a bell of orange blossoms, which Jack, by some mysterious agency, showered over them as the ceremony closed. The colored fiddlers, concealed by date-palms and foliage plants beneath the winding stairway, played "I dreamt I dwelt in marble halls," in a low, tremulous tone. The girls had taught them the piece. All the old slaves on the plantation came up to the manor-house to see the triple wedding, which they thought was grand, although superstitiously thinking that a double wedding was unlucky. Nothing was left undone that would make it a typical southern wedding, as Bessie wanted it to be as near like her mother's as possible.

The colonel and Mrs. Gibson looked as happy as the young folks. She looked frail, though Mammy Rhody said prettier than when she was a bride many years ago.

Lawrence Hunt brought several friends from New Orleans. Dr. Ray, the Howes' family physician in New York, came down with his family, also the rector and some few others who were dear to them. The party at the old manor-house kept Mammy Rhody busy. She was the proudest, happiest soul in Louisiana, and she felt she had done it all, to have Miss' Pauline back at Brompton to live. She had never dreamed in her grandest flights of such a heaven as this.

Norfolk was the scene of a grand display the following day, and Mrs. Howard followed next, after which Lawrence Hunt returned to New Orleans, feeling that next to Mammy Rhody, he was the happiest soul in the state.

It had been my dream to see one more southern wedding, with the vlands cooked at home by one of the old cooks, the visitors remaining in the home and have receptions follow, but I never supposed it would ever be two New York girls who would bring it about. It cannot be repeated often, perhaps never again. The old cooks are all dying, and the houses are going to decay. But few of the owners of them are able to keep them up.

Dear old Brompton! Little did Enid and Bessie think they would train their wedding-gowns down the winding stairway of the old manor-house, as they listened to the twilight talks in the nursery in their New York home.

"All's well that ends well." Long life and happiness to the manor-house brides. Mammy Rhody echoes, "Amen!"

THE END.

In London there is a manufactory in which every kind of rare or ancient coin is made, and a collector need not go out of the place if he wants to fill his cabinets with numismatic treasures.

AN UNINVITED GUEST AT THE EXCURSION.

The average westerner loves an excursion, and their frequency does not in the least diminish popular interest in them. Whether by rail or water, there is always ready an eager, expectant crowd.

When the Texas and Pacific railway was being built westward from Dallas, Texas, some years ago, its managers decided to give the newspaper men's convention, then assembled in that city, a free excursion to W, a frontier town then, quite a little city now. It is perhaps unnecessary to state, the invitation was very generally accepted, though why it is difficult to say, as there was nothing very picturesque to see or startling to encounter. But we all went, and our wives, sweethearts and lady friends went with us. We had two day coaches to ourselves, properly designated in a dignified way as "the ladies' coach" and "the smoker," respectively. Both were well filled, though not overcrowded.

On our return run, we—in the ladies' car—were somewhat startled, when the engineer stopped for water, by the entrance of a stranger, who seated himself next the door facing the rest of us. His clothing was ragged and soiled with mud, his hair disheveled, his beard unkempt, and his manner nervous and restless. With more naturalness than politeness, we stared at him, and he returned the gaze, with interest.

After the train started, one of our party rose to go to the "smoker."

"Sit down!" commanded the intruder in a voice "as though horn to rule the storm," and at the same time leveled a villainous-looking pistol at our astonished member's head.

Down went the member with the alacrity horn of self-preservation. Another Faber-pusher rose to get a good look at the new commander. With a rapid motion the pistol covered the man of curiosity.

"Sit down!" the stranger shouted.

He sat. Of course, our interest became unanimously centered on our new-comer. This, instead of pleasing, had quite the contrary effect, and our self-invited guest became even more nervous under our fixed and steady gaze. There was a sort of muscular or mechanical sympathy between his eye and the barrel of his pistol, for wherever one looked the other peered at the precise spot, and "the heads of the aggregated wisdom of Texas," as our orator had flatteringly designated us in open convention, were kept moving in various directions. Some went down, others up, others sideways—in fact, I fear we were undignified enough to be actively engaged in dodging.

How long this was kept up is a matter of conjecture, but in the writer's opinion it was several ages, and he is not sure to this good day whether his head is on wrong side to the front or not.

Presently the member nearest our visitor received the command, "Take your head down!"

She screamed—as all ladies will, you know—but her head went down as the scream went up, and she sat in a heap on the floor between seats. The command came with lightning-like repetition to each member, always emphasized with the glance of his fiery eye and the frown of his pistol-barrel. Head after head went down, and the seating-room on the floor between the seats was deemed a luxury. There was plenty of room in the aisle, but no one offered to occupy it.

Again, minutes seemingly lengthened into hours as we sat thus amid banana, orange and apple parings and the refuse titbits from our lunch-baskets, each knowing if he peered above the seat in front of him, the same fearful eye and the same murderous weapon would confront him.

But all things have an end, and we were destined to be saved, for the monotony of the situation was interrupted by Fish—"the gallant Fish," we called him ever afterward—an editor, coming from "the smoker." Fish weighed two hundred and fifty pounds. He entered, whistling a soft ditty of his own composing. At once the self-invited guest thrust his eye and pistol upon him, repeating the command, "Sit down!"

The whistling ceased. We heard a fearful bumping and thumping, intermingled with yells for help, and some of our bravest brethren ran to the rescue. Fish had seized the pistol and the intruder had seized Fish. They struggled, they fell, and—horror!—Fish was underneath. That is to say, Fish's body was, but his legs were in the air.

After a struggle we overpowered the intruder, and cutting a part of the bell-cord, tied him band and foot. We then secured his awful weapon, and on close inspection found—it had no cylinder! Our intruder was frothing at the mouth and struggling with his cords when the conductor came back to our coach with two officers of the law in search of an escaped lunatic.—*The Illustrated American.*

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LET THEM JUMP.

The movements and habits of a young baby seem so strange to us because they are so different from those made by adults, and because they are so unconsciously performed. Joy is expressed by muscular movements, by wriggling of the hands and toes, or by convulsive beatings of the arms, when it is small; by "jiggling," when it is larger. These movements are expressive of joy because to any animal of highly developed muscular energy, movement is absolutely essential and particularly pleasing, while stillness is the reverse. It is muscular excitement, chiefly no doubt electrical, a heritage from ancestors who knew not what it was to be still, that gives that restlessness to children and causes them to find so much pleasure in mere motion and muscular exertion of any kind.

Jumping for joy is very literally correct of a child's expression of pleasure. The prospect of a sweet will excite a series of leaps to indicate delight, and they further serve the purpose of relieving the tedium of waiting the half second necessary to the donation. The pleasure of finding a bird's nest with the egg in it—a pleasure which must have been very real, sometimes, in the case of hungry monkeys and savage man, but is now only a survival of the instinct thus formed—this pleasure a boy expressed by a series of convulsive leaps into the air, and during the performance not only were the arms and legs moved as much as possible, but the muscles of the stomach and vocal organs had to be utilized to cause accompanying shouts.

It may be remarked that in adults, when limb movements are less active, shouts are, on account of the muscular action involved, a necessary accompaniment of joy, noticeable in 'Arry on a bank holiday; while in some cases expletives are symptomatic of joy, and not of anger. All these outward signs have had their origin in that nerve excitation inducing muscular action, which is a heritage from ancestors who, impelled by hunger, by love or by war, led more active lives, and thereby obtained a desire for motion as a second nature.

Children and young lambs are very familiar examples; and so strongly will the latter pursue their gambols and racings that a broken heart is sometimes a cause of death in the middle of a sudden gallop. If children have to be still, it is torture to them—positive torture in some cases—and grown-up people are unaware how much, or they would not thoughtfully inflict it on young children. Muscular ache, the fidgets, growing pain in the limbs, are all the result of enforced inactivity in children. It is similar with athletes; their muscular excitement is so strong that movement is pleasure, stillness means pain, and they are noted for restlessness.—*The Nineteenth Century.*

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"STAY EAST, YOUNG MAN."

The enchantment which was lent by distance to the view of the western states and western Canada has been dispelled of late, and wise men are beginning to realize that there are opportunities for the energetic youth of our country in what have been termed the "old provinces." Fashion will always have its followers—many of these blind followers—and only a few years past it was quite the fashion for young men to go West, even although they were making comfortable livings in the East. The young man who goes West because he wishes to enlarge his views, and perhaps prefers western life is quite within his right. But the young man who goes West because he can't make any money East, generally ends by becoming poorer the farther west he goes. It may be generally taken for a pretty sure thing that the young man who goes West and is eminently successful in business, would not be a failure if he had stayed at home. It has come to be recognized that farming as a business can be made to pay. Farmers who are out at the elbows would probably be out at the elbows at any other business. The young man who is hesitating between two choices—to go West or stay East—had better stay East, unless he has money enough to go West on an experimental tour, in order that he may appreciate the advantages of the East.—*Woodstock, N. B., Dispatch.*

HOW THE PHONOGRAPH WAS DISCOVERED.

"I discovered the principle by the merest accident," states Mr. Edison. "I was singing into the mouthpiece of a telephone, when the vibrations of the voice sent the fine, steel point into my finger. That set me to thinking. If I could record the actions of the point, and send the point over the same surface afterward, I saw no reason why the thing would not talk. I tried the experiment first on a strip of telegraph-paper, and found that the point made an alphabet. I shouted the words, 'Halloo, halloo!' into the mouthpiece, ran the paper back over the steel point, and heard a faint 'Halloo, halloo!' in return. I determined to make a machine that would work accurately, and gave my assistants instructions, telling them what I had discovered. They laughed at me. That's the whole story. The phonograph is the result of the pricking of a finger."

THE NEW SCOTCH WRITER.

The work of Ian Maclaren, the new Scotch writer, is said to have been highly praised by the late Matthew Arnold. Ian Maclaren is the pen-name of the Rev. John Maclaren Watson. He spent most of his boyish holidays at an uncle's farm in Scotland, and much of life and character which the lad observed there is to be found in the man's book. He is a graduate of Edinburgh University, and his career has been full of hard and conscientious work. He is an eloquent preacher. He is a thorough Scotchman, and his book of short stories, "Beside the Bonnie Brier-Bush," has a good deal of dialect in it.—*New York Tribune.*

NICKNAMES OF NAPOLEON.

Among the scores of nicknames by which Napoleon has been called, are Little Corporal, Soldier of the Democracy, Father Violet, the Eagle, God of Clay, Heir of the Empire, Man of Destiny, Nightmare of Europe.

THE DAKOTA HOT SPRINGS.

The Hot Springs of Arkansas have long been deservedly popular, for the reason that there has been no other place that has filled the requirements of both a health and a pleasure resort. This state of affairs has changed. The Hot Springs of South Dakota have, in recent years, been thrown open to the people, and because of their delightful situation and great curative qualities, are becoming more popular every day. Situated as this resort is, in the famous Black Hills, in the midst of beautiful mountain scenery, possessing that peculiar balsamic atmosphere which is in itself health giving, with waters that are pronounced by experts equal if not superior to those of any other mineral springs in the world, it will soon outrank any other like resort.

The hotel accommodations are of the best—hostelries with all the modern improvements and conveniences. The Evans Hotel, built of pink sandstone, with steam heat, electric lights, and every room an outside one, is easily the best-conducted house between Chicago and Denver. Fine bath-houses are connected with the best hotels. The rates of all the hotels are very reasonable. The surrounding country is more than picturesque—it is wonderful. The marvelous "Wind Cave," the falls of Fall River; Battle Mountain, the old Indian battleground; Deadwood and the gold fields, and the famous Bad Lands are all within driving distance. The mammoth plunge bath at the Springs is noted as being one of the largest natatoriums in the world. So healthful are the surroundings, and so many the conveniences of this "Carlsbad of America," that it is rapidly becoming the "Mecca," not only for invalids, but for pleasure-seekers as well. The "Burlington Route" reaches there in a day and a half from St. Louis. Pullman sleepers and free chair cars on train No. 15 run to Lincoln, and from Lincoln free chair cars and sleepers run through to the springs.

For further information, call on any "Burlington Route" Agent, or address D. O. Ives, G. P. and T. A., St. Louis, Mo.

THE BEST HUSBAND.

No man, in my opinion, can be the best husband until he is the minister of his family. As the home is the first church, so the husband is the first minister. He is the high priest of that home; his wife, the high priestess.

If religion means an abiding faith in an Almighty power above us, and a true love of God, who is love, together with love in the best sense of all mankind, then I say religion should have its place, a large place, in every home, and the husband should be the one to encourage, by example and sensible teaching, its continued presence there. If he would have the happiest family about him, he will teach—not preach, understand—the doctrines of religion and morality. The father who would have his child, when that child becomes a man, continue in his career in the fullness of Christian faith, must bring up that child amid Christian surroundings. As a rule, those men who are most sincere in their religious belief were imbued with the spirit of religion in childhood.

I cannot bring myself to the belief that there is enough of religion in our homes today—not enough, particularly in this great, seething, crowding, pushing city. Amid the rush, the pace that kills, religion is forgotten. The husband and father has no time for it; he can't even find house-room for it. As only one man here and there will tolerate religion in his office or place of business, where, then, do the great mass of men keep their religion? Some few keep it within the walls of a church, pay a handsome pew rent for keeping it there, and go take a look at it once every Sunday from eleven to twelve.

I fear that especially among well-to-do families, in the homes of prosperity, religion is almost entirely neglected; at least, the subject is seldom spoken of as an expression of real feeling, except in hushed tones. And yet I do not wish to paint the situation in darker colors than it really is. I do not say all husbands and fathers neglect religion. If there are great numbers of homes in this city in which religion has no place, there are still many households in which the family lives together in the spirit of Christ's teachings; and when such is the case, it is usually because the husband and the wife agree in their religion, and agreeing in that, agree in all matters, and are the happier. In these homes husband and wife love God and pray and worship together, just as they work, hope, sorrow and joy together.—*Rev. Dr. C. H. Parkhurst.*

TOUCHY PEOPLE.

There are people—yes, many people—always looking out for slights. They cannot carry on the daily intercourse of the family without finding that some offense is designed. They are as touchy as hair-triggers. If they meet an acquaintance who happens to be preoccupied with business, they attribute his abstraction in some mode personal to themselves, and take umbrage accordingly. They lay on others the fruit of their irritability. Indigestion makes them see impertinence in everyone with whom they come in contact. Innocent persons, who never dreamed of giving offense, are astonished to find some unhappy word or momentary taciturnity mistaken for an insult. To say the least, the habit is unpleasant. It is far wiser to take the more charitable view of our fellow-beings, and not suppose that a slight is intended unless the neglect is open and direct.

After all, too, life takes its hues, in a great degree, from the color of our own mind. If we are frank and generous, the world treats us kindly; if, on the contrary, we are suspicious, men learn to be cold and cautious to us. Let a person get a reputation of being "touchy," and everybody is under restraint, and in this way the chances of an imaginary offense are vastly increased.—*Health.*

DID CHINESE DISCOVER AMERICA?

The claims of Columbus to be regarded as the discoverer of the New World have been disputed by several people. The Norwegians assert that Eric the Red landed in America five centuries before Columbus set sail in his caravel, and the French say that Jean Cousin discovered the Amazon river four years before the great Spaniard sighted the unknown land.

But the latest development of the dispute is the strangest. The Chinese discovered America! So says an American, and the following are his reasons for this assertion:

There can be no manner of doubt that there is very close relationship between the Indian dialects and the Chinese language; the resemblance between a large number of words is very striking, and they are alike in their structure, which is monosyllabic.

On the other hand, a kind of physical identity proves that the Mexican Indians and the Chinese belong to the same Mongol race. The writer says that when he saw the Indians at Quadra-et-Vancouver for the first time, he was unable to distinguish them from Chinese, and he spoke to them in the language of the celestial empire.

Mr. Masters quotes, in support of his contention, a fragment of the Yuen-kin-lui-han, a great Chinese encyclopedia, which runs into more than 200 volumes.

This fragment relates that in a certain year a Buddhist priest arrived in the village of King Chau, on his return from a voyage in the kingdom of Fusang, concerning which he gave various particulars.

Fusang was situated to the east of China, and derived its name from the numerous fusang-trees which grew there; these trees grew to the height of bamboos, and the first canes were used by the natives as food. The fruit resembled a pear, and its color was light red.

A kind of cloth was made of the fiber. The people knew how to write, and they used a paper made of the bark of the fusang.

The cattle in Fusang had enormous horns; vehicles were drawn by horses, oxen and reindeer. The people made a kind of cheese from milk. Red pears grew there, and if not gathered, they would remain on the trees all the year round, and not fall off as elsewhere; grapes also grew there in abundance.

Copper was found in Fusang, but no iron; gold and silver had no commercial value.

Now, which country can this be but Mexico? It is the only country where we find the tree described in the Chinese encyclopedia; it is a country where no iron is found, and where, according to writers of the middle ages, gold and silver had no commercial value!

No doubt the five holy men from Ki-Pin reached Mexico via Corea, Japan, the Kourile Islands, Alaska, Oregon and California.

Those who have lived in China, and have studied the customs, says Mr. Masters, notice a striking analogy between the laws, religion and customs of that country and those of ancient Mexico.

Chinese laborers who have been employed in the construction of Mexican railways, and have traveled in Central America, say they have found on some of the rocks numerous hieroglyphics which are merely distorted Chinese characters.

The similarity of the Mexican calendar with that of many Asiatic peoples led Humboldt to believe that communication had been established between Mexico and Asia long before the time of Columbus; while Mr. Bancroft, Professor Davidson and other learned Americans have furnished data which leave very little room for doubt as to the accuracy of Humboldt's conclusion.—*El Liberal, Madrid.*

NO SCARCITY OF LOBSTERS.

Every month or two, gourmets are scared almost into apoplexy by a report that the lobster is well-nigh fished out of the Atlantic seaboard. To offset these gloomy tidings, listen to what the Canadian Fisheries Department says: "The enormous number of 150,000,000 young lobsters have been hatched out of the departmental establishments in Nova Scotia this season." What Canada has done, America may do. If worst comes to worst, our epicures can eat Canadian lobsters, but for awhile yet they need sacrifice neither their patriotism nor their crustaceans.



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Our Household.

HOUSE CLEANING.

The melancholy days have come, the saddest of the year,
Of cleaning paint and scrubbing floors and scouring far and near.
Heaped in the corner of the room, the ancient dirt lay quiet,
Nor rose up at the father's tread nor at the children's riot;
But now the carpets are all up, and from the staircase top
The mistress calls to man and maid to wield the broom and mop.

Where are those rooms, those quiet rooms, the house but now presented,
Wherein we dwelt, nor dreamed of dirt, so cozy and contented?
Alas! they're all turned upside down, that quiet suite of rooms,
With slops and suds, and soap and sand, and tubs and pails and brooms;
Chairs, tables, stands are strewn about at sixes and at sevens,
While wife and housemaids fly around like meteors in the heavens.

And now when comes the master home, as come he must o' nights,
To find all things are "set to wrongs" that they have "set to rights,"
When the sound of driving tacks is heard, the rooms strange echoes fill,
And the carpet woman's on the stairs (that harbinger of ill),
He looks for papers, books or bills that all were there before,
And sighs to find them on the desks and in the drawers no more.

And then he grimly thinks of her who set this fuss afloat,
And wishes she were out at sea in a very leaky boat;
He meets her at the parlor door with hair and cap awry.
With sleeves tucked up and broom in hand, defiance in her eye;
He feels quite small, and knows full well there's nothing to be said,
He holds his tongue, and drinks his tea and sneaks away to bed.

HATS AND WRAPS.

THE spring capes are of all possible combinations of colors of cloth, silk, velvet and lace.

At a recent opening I was shown a very fine effect in navy-blue cloth. The main cape was perfectly plain, but trimmed with nine Vandyke points of the cloth perforated with holes over bright yellow silk, and corded all around the edge with the yellow silk. At the point of each Vandyke was a bow of dark blue ribbon edged with gold. A full ruche of the same ribbon finished the neck, and it was fastened in front by a bow and long loops and ends over a hook and eye.

The entire cape was lined with yellow, brocade silk. Fig. 1 illustrates it.

All of the capes are complete circles of three or four yards in the outer sweep.

The publishers of this paper are prepared to furnish the pattern in sizes of 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure, for eleven cents. Write for pattern No. 6,395.

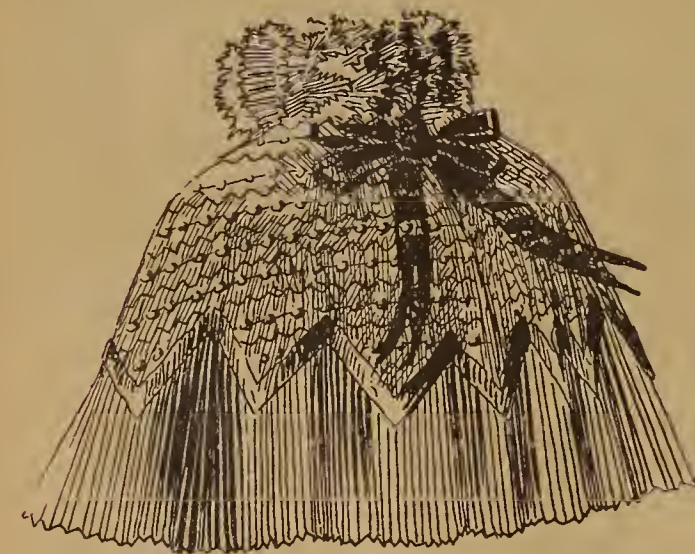


FIG. 3.—SILK AND LACE CAPE.

The variety is made in capes by the trimmings, and each lady's taste must be the guide in the matter.

In Fig. 2 is illustrated a black cloth with very open, black embroidery all over the cape, and finished at the bottom with very

full knife-plaiting of black silk, pinked on the edge. The neck is finished with a full ruche of black silk.

Fig. 3 is an under-cape of changeable silk—a plain circle to the turn of the shoulders, edged with a full knife-plaiting of the silk pinked on the edge. Over this is a cape of piece-lace cut in large points and finished on the edge with sequin braid, and dotted all over with sequins. A full ruche of the silk at the neck, dotted with violets, forms the finish.

The capes range in price from eight to twenty-five dollars, and being small affairs, it seems a big investment of money. The higher-priced ones are covered with braiding and jet. The colors are striking, being of bright blues, yellow, red and even white, covered with jet.

For ordinary wear, good cloth can be obtained and a beautiful garment made at home for less than six dollars.

In hats, the newest thing is the tall-crowned walking-hat, trimmed in velvet and wings. Another is a wide-brimmed, high-crowned large hat. Also a turban with a turn-up of fancy braid, trimmed on the sides with wings, tall wired ends of black satin ribbon, and black silk poppies with yellow centers.

A pretty lace and jet bonnet trimmed profusely with violets, large loops of velvet ribbon and a jet aigrette, is suitable for middle life. The flowers come in all colors.



FIG. 1.—PERFORATED CLOTH CAPE.

Ties of narrow, velvet ribbon come from the back and tie under the chin.

KATHRYN XIE.

TO TEACH THE VALUE OF MONEY.

So many parents who are very careful as to their children's mental, moral and physical training, never give a thought to their financial training; yet when we see so many living beyond their means, and note the evil results that surely follow, it behooves all parents to awaken to the fact that it is a part of their duty to teach their children the value of money and how to spend it wisely.

Those who have never handled money have little, if any, idea of its value, and do not realize the care that must be used in spending it. After a child reaches a proper age, it should have money of its own to purchase its own clothing and other necessities; yet while experience has proven to

our entire satisfaction that it is right and proper for the child to have its own money, from observation we have concluded that it is better always that the money come to them not as a gift, or even as a regular monthly allowance, but as an equivalent

for some service rendered. It is an easy matter to spend other people's money, but if it comes to us as the result of our own personal exertion, and is to us the equivalent of a certain amount of labor expended, it then assumes a new value, and usually is not thoughtlessly spent.



FIG. 2.—CLOTH CAPE.

A child five years of age is none too young to begin to help a little about the house, and to receive a certain remuneration for its work. As it grows and its ability to help increases, its knowledge as how best to use money will also increase, and it should be paid proportionately; until when it has arrived at years of discretion, its earnings will be enough to supply all its actual needs, and a small surplus beside for pleasure or recreation.

Many a parent urges as an excuse for not doing this, that they cannot afford it. That it takes all they can make to meet usual expenses without creating new ones, not seeming to think that clothing and many other things must be supplied anyway, and that it will cost no more for the son or daughter to purchase them, guided by a parent's judgment, than if the parent buy them; while the child's self-respects will be cultivated, to say nothing of the profitable financial lessons they are teaching that will go with them all through life.

Many parents complain that their children take little interest in home affairs, and if a task is required of them, do it so carelessly as to be of little help. Investigation usually discloses the fact that in such homes there is much work required, and but little recreation allowed, while nothing is done to foster an interest in home affairs. Things all belong to father and mother, not to the family. But let a change be instituted, and if the home be in the country, let the children be given a pig, a lamb or a calf for their own especial property; or let the poultry pass into their care and they be allowed a certain per cent of the proceeds; or have a bit of ground to cultivate, the crop to be theirs, and they will at once manifest an interest in home and work that will be most pleasing to their parents, and conducive of much good to the children. It will be found by the end of the season that the united earnings of the family are much more than usual, and the child should be given sufficient credit for its aid.

Many a child or youth is always wanting to buy something, and seems in imminent danger of growing up to be a perfect spendthrift; but if they have their own money to spend, they soon learn the proper use of it, and so spend it judiciously, rather than carelessly, as was the case when it was some one else's money.

There are few, if any, families in which it would not be profitable in a financial way to pay the children for doing the long, hard jobs usually required of them, for they will then take so much more interest in their work and do it so much more quickly that there will be a gain in that way, aside from the more careful expenditure of their earnings; and if they be intrusted with some money-making interest as well, their efforts will result in such an increased income as will more than supply the wages they are to receive for their other work, beside leaving them a profit for the extra labor they bestow upon the interest assigned to their care.

"Seeing is believing." So if there are any skeptical ones among our readers, if they will give it a thorough trial, they will be convinced of the truth of these statements, beside giving their children a financial training that will be of service to them all through their lives.

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERTS.

ACTIVELY AT WORK.

Remarkable Experience of Rev. W. J. Chapin, of Chatham—His Interesting Story of His Prostration and Restoration to Health.

(From the State Journal, Springfield, Ill.)

In the pretty little village of Chatham, Sangamon county, there lives a Baptist divine. His clear eye, keen mental faculties and magnificent physique all bear witness to a life well and nobly spent. This pioneer in God's eternal vineyard is Rev. W. J. Chapin, whose seventy-two years are crowded with noble deeds in the Christian ministry.

To a *State Journal* representative who had occasion to ask him something of his career in the ministry, Mr. Chapin talked in a peculiarly interesting strain.

"In my earlier years I was almost a perfect stranger to any kind of medicine or tonic. As is too often the case, however, I overestimated my physical resources. The crisis came about 18 years ago. I was preaching the gospel at the time, and became suddenly so ill that I was compelled to stop before my sermon was finished. It was a bad case of nervous prostration, and for a time my friends and family were greatly exercised over my condition. It is hard to describe my feelings so that others can have a conception of them. I felt absolutely worthless, physically and mentally. I had so lost control of my muscles that my fingers would involuntarily release their grip upon a pen, and my hand would turn over with absolutely no volition on my part.

"About two years ago, to intensify matters, I was seized with a severe attack of la grippe. I recovered only partially from it and had frequent returns of that indescribable feeling which accompanies and follows that strange malady. I looked in vain for something to bring relief and finally I read an account of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. They gave me additional strength from the start and toned up my system from a condition of almost absolute prostration so that I was able again to resume my duties as a minister. My improvement was marvelous. I am now preaching at Forest City and Loami, and in addition to the exacting character of this work itself, I ride ten or fifteen miles on the way there and back."

Mrs. Chapin, a kindly faced elderly lady said: "They did him so much good that I decided to test their efficacy on myself. I have been troubled for years with what our physician, Dr. Hewitt, calls rheumatic paralysis, but since taking the Pink Pills I have been stronger, and the pain in my right arm and hand is less acute. We keep the pills in the house nearly all the time, and they do me a great deal of good in the way of toning up my system and strengthening me. The pills are used by a good many others in this vicinity, and everyone speaks well of them."

These pills are sold only in boxes bearing the firm's trade mark and wrapper, at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, and are never sold in bulk. They may be had of all druggists, or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

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We make this boot ourselves, therefore we guarantee the fit, style and wear, and if any one is not satisfied we will refund the money or send another pair. Opera Toe or Common Sense, widths C, D, E, & EE, sizes 1 to 8, and half sizes. Send your size; we will fit you. Illus. Cat. FREE. Est'd 1880. Capital, \$1,000,000. DEXTER SHOE CO., ORDER CLERK 4, Boston, Mass.

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HOME TOPICS.

POTATO OMELET.—To a large cupful of mashed potato allow three eggs—the yolks and whites beaten separately—half a teaspoonful of salt, half a teacupful of milk, a teaspoonful of sifted flour and a teaspoonful of chopped parsley. Beat the ingredients thoroughly together, heat a large frying-pan, melt a spoonful of butter in it and then pour in the mixture. Let it brown lightly, then either roll the omelet or fold it over, turn it out on a hot plate, and serve it immediately.

CHEESE TOAST.—Grate half a pound of good, rich cheese, add to it a pinch of salt and a very little pepper, then pour over it two thirds of a cupful of thin cream. Set it on the stove and let it heat slowly until the cheese melts and the milk comes to a boil. Have an egg beaten very light, and when the cheese is all melted and the milk boiling, pour it into the beaten egg, stirring it all the time. Have some slices of bread toasted a light brown, cover each

ho is a man, the manners he may learn later, and reveal the deficiencies of his early home education.

Not long since I sat at table with a col-

was drawn a black stocking, one end of which was stuffed to make a head and body, these coming just where the neck of the bottle begins to flare. The face was marked with features in paints. Some black astrakhan was fastened to the head for wool, and then the whole doll was dressed in a comfortable dark blue and white checked gingham dress, fitting neatly over the large bust. On the head was a pretty, dark sunbounet. In the arms were a feather duster and a dusting-cloth made of part of a Japanese napkin.

When finished, Dinah is placed by any door that you wish to keep open which is likely to be blown shut by the wind. If sand does not make it heavy enough, use shot in part of the bottle and the rest sand.

L. L. C.

LITTLE HELPS.

I have found big helps in getting work done on time. If you have a day's sewing to do, roll your machine to the stove in the sitting-room, the first thing in the morning; or, when you do not have a fire, put it by a window where the sun shines warm. When you are ready to sew, you will find the machine runs so much easier.

Another help is, when cutting a ham, cut it all up at once and pack it down in a jar, fat and lean mixed. The meat does not get strong, and the bone is better to cook when the meat is all cut off at one time. In this way you avoid getting your hands dirty in cutting it down at every meal. In summer it is a good plan to fry it all down at one time; then it takes very little fire to warm over the meat.

Pork is better fried very slowly for one hour, and if thick, for two hours, and then only be a light brown, but done. I fry when I am ironing.

A nice thing to use when washing very dirty dishes or skillets is a wisp, especially if you do not have a dish-washer.

A good way to warm a bed for company, in a room where you cannot have a fire, is to stand the ironing-board behind the stove in the afternoon, and then put it in the bed an hour before retiring, and your friends will sleep comfortably.

M. S. LATTA.

WALL ORNAMENT.

Obtain from a picture-framer a piece of circular cardboard left from the mats used in mounting pictures. Paint in brown or black water-color the head of a pussy or puppy. Frame the circle with firm, white hemp rope, secured around the cardboard in rings, and end with a bow. The end of the rope can be fringed and tied to form tassels. This makes quite a pretty ornament for the wall or door.

M. E. SMITH.

BEER-BOTTLE DINAH.

In the evolution from a beer-bottle to a very useful figure in life, as Dinah makes of herself, we can see something of the uplifting power of circumstances. A friend called to me:

"Come, see this good servant."



FOUNDATION.

BEER-BOTTLE DINAH.

I looked, to see a respectable miniature colored woman, faithful as the southern mammy used to be, quietly standing by the door to keep it open. Many devices have been used for this purpose—a covered brick, the iron toad, etc.—but I thought this the best.

The beer-bottle was first filled with sand, to give it weight. Over the bottle

WALL PAPER.

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- \$40 { No. 3, for BOYS, 24 in. Wheels, 21 lbs. No. 6, for GIRLS, 24 in. Wheels, 23 lbs.

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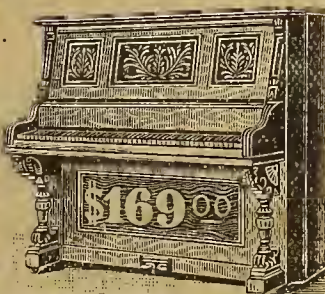
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and Burns are soothed at once with

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It takes out the fire, reduces the inflammation, and prevents blistering. It is the quickest and most effectual remedy for pain that is known. Keep it by you.

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Mention this paper.

Our Household.

WHERE MOTHS DO NOT VENTURE.

THIS is the month when the careful housewife is anxiously inquiring as to the best method of protecting the winter clothing, also blankets and shawls, from the raid of that little pest, the moth.

Before wooleus are stored away for the summer, they should be thoroughly dusted, or washed if necessary, then hung upon a line in the sun for three or four hours. This will very effectually destroy any larvæ of moths that may be in them.

It will simplify matters next fall if the garments are carefully sorted this spring. Those to be worn again should be neatly mended, and the socks and stockings ought to be carefully darned.

Those which must be made over before being of service would better be ripped, washed and smoothly pressed, thus ren-

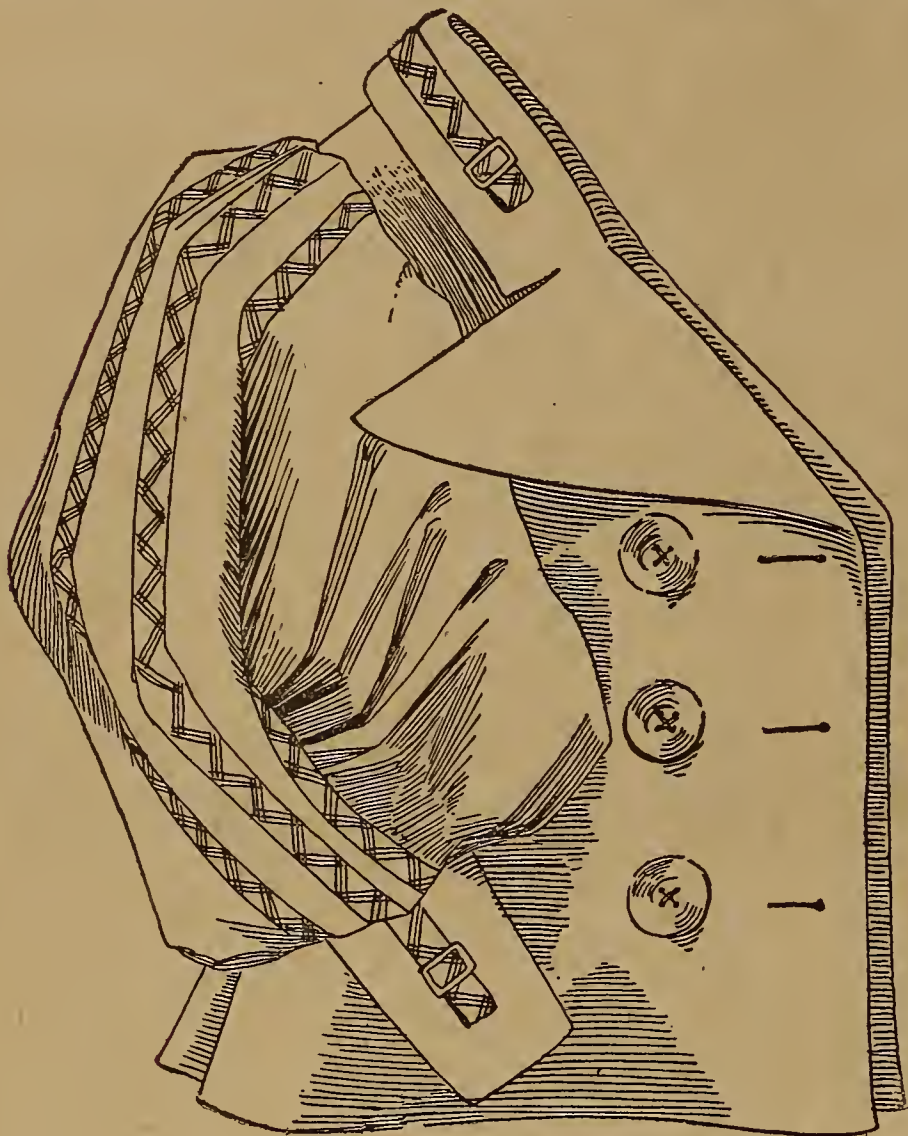
about a pint, add a little more sugar if necessary, and water if the juice is quite thick, a dessert-spoonful of butter, and thicken with a tablespoonful of flour rubbed smooth in cold water. Season with nutmeg if you wish. When fresh fruit is used, and there is no juice, take about one cupful of sugar, one cupful of water, two tablespoonfuls of vinegar, and then proceed as in above recipe.

This pudding is just as good warmed over as fresh. Pour a little water over the top, place in a buttered tin with a little water, and put in the oven for fifteen minutes.

GYPSY.

CHILD'S JACKET.

This is of deep red cloth trimmed with braid, mixed in color—red and white. Gilt buckles fasten the ends of the braid. It is closed with very large buttons. All sorts of combined light colors are used in children's wraps, but the prices deter many mothers from purchasing them, as eight



CHILD'S JACKET.

dering them ready for immediate use when desired. After carefully sorting the various articles, place them in large, paper flour-sacks. Write upon each sack, in bold letters, the name of the articles within.

Black pepper-pods and gum camphor in the wooleus and tobacco-leaves among furs will make "assurance doubly sure."

Allow space at the top of the sacks so that the opening may be sewed together, either on the machine or by hand.

Cayenne pepper sprinkled in the corners of a room, under the carpet, will insure safety from the destructive carpet-moth.

ELLA BARTLETT SIMMONS.

ROLL PUDDING.

- 1 cupful of sweet milk,
- 1 tablespoonful of butter,
- 1 teaspoonful of soda,
- 2 teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar.

Flour for batter as stiff as biscuit dough. Sift the soda and cream of tartar with some of the flour, rub in the butter, add milk, and then flour enough so that the dough can be rolled out as thin as fried cake-dough. Spread on a layer of any fruit you wish, canned or fresh, apples, pie-plant, berries, cherries, currants or peaches; over the fruit sprinkle some sugar, varying in quantity as to the sourness of fruit. Commence at one side, and roll the dough and fruit over and over as tightly as possible, fastening the ends and last edge as securely as they can be, to prevent fruit and juice escaping from the inside of the roll. Bake in a moderate oven for about three fourths of an hour. When fresh fruit is used, it takes a little longer and slower baking.

The pudding may be served with cream and sugar, or a sauce made after the following recipe:

If canned fruit is used, take the juice,

and ten dollars are most too much to invest in a growing child's clothes.

K.

SPRING'S AWAKENING.

"That which makes an educated man is the habit of thinking about what he sees, hears or reads." So says Edward Eggleston; and furthermore he tells the story of Hugh Miller, who, toiling daily in the stone quarries with dozens of his fellow-men, outstripped all of them because he thought about the fossils in the stones, wondered

Pears'

A fat soap greases the skin; an alkali soap makes it red and harsh.

Pears' soap is nothing - but soap; no fat or alkali in it.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

about them, and then studied about them until he became a fine geologist.

When we were budding school-girls, just emerging into the "higher branches," leaving the good old spelling-book, readers and our small geographies behind, don't you remember that we used to listen with an almost intolerant spirit to the older members of the household, who, versed in lore of field and wood, and signs of weather, discoursed upon their favorite themes, knowledge which we rated far beneath our Latin readers and algebraic mysteries.

But after all, isn't such knowledge of infinite value to country people in general?

Now that spring is here, let us see what of her open book we can take for our own. Isn't it of some interest to note the first croaking of the frogs, the flight of the wild geese, the first note of the robin and blue-bird? Then there are the pussy willows. Where do they grow, and when do their pretty, furry coats first appear? Then there are the wild flowers, which peep at you from every field and nook. How many of them do you know as old friends, who are

so staunch in their friendship that they never fail to give you a sweet welcome? A little preparation will soon enable one to name and recognize the simple parts of a flower, the calyx and corolla, the stamens and pistils, anthers and stigma. This bit of knowledge so easily gained will add much interest to the flower family, or families, rather, for there are many of them.

Bees are very fond of the honey found in the violets, but because of the little crook at the base of the cup (or corolla) they cannot reach it, so what do the wise little things do but tap the flower from the base outside, and thus plunder the seemingly safely stored sweet, carrying it away industriously, even though it was obtained stealthily at the back door.

Why not make a little note-book this spring of your observations?

MARY D. SIBLEY.

THE GENUINE "BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES" are sold only in boxes. They are wonderfully effective for Coughs, Hoarseness or Irritation of the Throat caused by cold.



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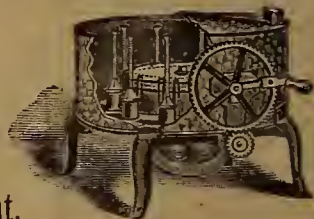
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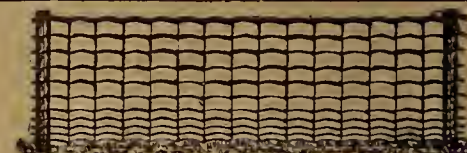
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Dear Sirs:—I have received "Beauties and Wonders" all right, and find it by far the best book of the kind I ever saw. Yours truly, J. V. GALOR, Grand Lodge, Mich.



FARMERS SHOULD EXPERIMENT

and not always take the word of interested parties. Very few of them have any idea how much the common soft wire will stretch. They may have been lead to believe it a mere trifle. It is an easy matter to prove that a No. 9 wire, under a strain of about 1000 lbs. will stretch from 1 to 1½ in. per foot and it never takes up its own slack. That accounts for those little end ratchets filling up so quickly. Our local agent will furnish a powerful stretcher for this experiment.

PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

LOOK for our announcement in NEXT issue of this paper. It will show a cut of 1 style of **DAVIS CREAM SEPARATORS** It would take several pages to give details about these peerless machines. Handsome Illustrated Pamphlet Mailed Free. AGENTS WANTED. DAVIS & RANKIN BLDG. AND MFG. CO. Sole Manufacturers, Chicago.

In a recent advertisement we told of our very superior all-steel hand and power feed cutter to be offered at

\$10 worth \$40

Another ad. tells of the process of galvanizing and its indispensable preservative qualities. We also will give you the experience of two representative business firms of Illinois, one of whom has sold 400 and the other 500 Aeromotors. In ad. No. 4 we quote a price on the best pumps made (hand, windmill, and irrigating) lower than was ever before dreamed of, and in ad. No. 5 we talk to you of steel galvanized tanks, with covers, at the unheard of price of 2½ cents per gallon. This is cheaper than wood. They do not shrink, leak, rot, rust, or give taste to water. Read all of the Aeromotor ads.

The Aeromotor Company treats the public generously. While state legislatures are passing laws to secure repairs for farm machinery at reasonable prices, IT IS A FACT THAT THE AEROMOTOR COMPANY HAS FOR THE YEAR 1895 BEEN COMPELLED TO RAISE ITS PRICES ON REPAIRS BECAUSE SOME OF ITS CUSTOMERS HAVE BEEN ORDERING INDIVIDUAL PARTS TO MAKE UP COMPLETE MACHINES, SINCE IN THAT WAY THEY COULD GET A MACHINE CHEAPER THAN BY ORDERING IT ASSEMBLED. People are not compelled to buy repairs; they are compelled to buy repairs. The Aeromotor Company grows to a fault. It is so large that it cannot assemble a machine for the protection of its motor Company has raised just enough to prevent this Aeromotor Company always at price and refused to sell it has now ESTABLISHED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY IN ORDER TO HAVE NOT ONLY ITS GOODS EASILY ACCESSIBLE, BUT TO HAVE ITS REPAIRS WITHIN EASY reach. It expects soon to greatly increase this a matter of the greatest importance to those who are purchasing machinery, and when he is buying an article that repairs can quickly be had at reasonable cost. Our very low prices and high standards on everything connected with water supply and power production by wind, together with the accessibility of a full line of our goods and repairs, will be appreciated. Aeromotor Co., Chicago.

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Any FOUR Patterns, and Farm and Fireside one year, 50 cents.

These patterns retail in fashion bazaars and stores for twenty-five to forty cents each, but in order to increase the demand for our paper among strangers, and to make it more valuable than ever to our old friends, we offer them to the lady readers of our paper for the remarkably low price of only 10 Cents Each. Postage one cent extra.

The patterns are all of the very latest New York styles, and are unequalled for style, accuracy of fit, simplicity and economy. For twenty-five years these patterns have been used the country over. Full descriptions and directions—as the number of yards of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment

to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a separate pattern for every single piece of the dress. Your order will be filled the same day it is received.

You can order any of the patterns which have been offered in the back numbers.

For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give BREAST measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. To get BUST and BREAST measure, put the tape measure ALL of the way around the body, over the dress close under the arms.

Price of each pattern, 10 cents.

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No. 6312.—MISSSES' WAIST, WITH REMOVABLE ETON JACKET. Sizes, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches breast measure. Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

NOTICE.

We receive many orders for patterns without any name or post-office address signed, hence we cannot fill the orders. If any of our readers have not received their patterns, and will write us a letter giving the full particulars so we can verify their order, we will be glad to look them up and fill them immediately.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

DAE RICHT AN' YE'LL DAE WEEL!

Tho' i'thers tak' the easy road,
Be yours in patience aye to plod,
Trust less in man and mair in God—
Dae richt an' daur the deil;
Ne'er lippen to the tempter's snare,
O' a' his wiles an' bribes beware,
Wale oot your staps wi' muckle care—
Dae richt an' ye'll dae weel!

Let conscience clear as crystal shine,
The "gowden rule" keep aye in min',
An' roon your heart let love entwine—
An' ye'll aye happy feel;
Ye'll fin' this aye the safest plan—
Dae richt—an' aye the best ye can,
God helps the honest, upright man—
Dae richt an' ye'll dae weel!

Use weel the talents God has lent,
Let ilka hour be wisely spent,
In a' ye dae hae guid intent,
As up life's hill ye spell;
An' tho' the way be steep an' bare,
Aye onward press wi' faith an' prayer,
Till aince you hear Our Faither there
Say oot, "YE'VE DONE GEY WEEL!"

"OUT OF FASHION."

I AM out of fashion. I like to read the "Pilgrim's Progress." It is associated with my mother, whom the Shining Ones, years ago, conducted into the city as they did Christian and Hopeful. She used to read it to us Sunday afternoons, or have us read it to her. We found more delight and profit in it than children can find now in their "Daisy Stories," their "Lucie Stories," their "Elsie Stories," and what not beside. It entered into our lives, it colored our plays, it taught us theology, it made us hopeful and ready to help, it gave us our ideals and our heroes. And besides, we found afterward that our taste for good books, our love for pure, racy, idiomatic English was formed on those Sunday afternoons with her who is now with Christiana and Mercy, whom she taught us to love.

I say I am out of fashion, for I do not see Bunyan on the stands and tables by the side of the Chautauquan books and *Harper's*, and *Scribner's*, and the *Atlantic*, and the *Century*. And when I make allusions to it in the prayer-meeting, I can sympathize with men in the church at Corinth who spoke in an unknown tongue, with none to interpret.

I once gave a copy to each member of a Sunday-school class of young ladies, and had the satisfaction of seeing the pretty face of one assume an indescribable expression of disgust, as she whispered her contempt in a tone which cannot be put on paper, "Pilgrim's Progress."

I afterward bought copies enough to give one as a Christmas present to each member of the Sabbath-school of which I was superintendent. I have had no reason to suppose that the gift gave any great pleasure, yet I am not sorry. I shall sow the good seed beside all waters, and keep giving copies of the dear book away.—*N. Y. Evangelist.*

THE EVERLASTING HARMONY.

If thou art living a righteous and useful life, doing thy duty orderly and cheerfully where God has put thee, then thou in thy humble place art humbly copying the everlasting harmony and melody which is in heaven; the everlasting harmony and melody by which God made the world and all that therein is—and behold it was very good—in the day when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy over the new-created earth, which God had made to be a pattern of his own perfection.—*Charles Kingsley.*

BETTER YOUR CONDITION!

The choicest farming lands of the world, the fine level land with rich marl beds, in the tide-water section and the rich bottom land along the numerous rivers, with the rolling lands adjoining in middle Virginia, perfect climate, reliable yields, no blizzards, fine forests, cereals, tobacco, peanuts and garden truck. Hard and soft timber, water power, good grazing lands, extensive fresh and salt fisheries. Best oysters in the world. The garden spot of America is Virginia, near the great markets of Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York, with low transportation rates.

On April 2nd and April 30th the Chesapeake & Ohio R'y will sell round trip excursion tickets from all points in the Northwest to Virginia at one fare.

Send for rates and time folder and descriptive pamphlet giving list of farms and homes for sale in Virginia, mailed free.

U. L. TRUITT,
General Traveling Passenger Agent C. & O. R'y, Cincinnati, Ohio.

A SUNNY FACE.

Wear it. It is your privilege. It has the quality of mercy; it is twice blessed. It blesses its possessor, and all who come under its benign influence; it is a daily boon to him who wears it, and a constant ever-flowing benediction to all his friends. Men, women, youth and children seek the friendship of the sunny-faced. All doors are open to those who smile. All social circles welcome cheeriness. A sunny face is an open sesame to heart and home. By it burdens are lightened, cares dispelled, sorrows banished and hope made to reign triumphant, where fear and despondency held high carnival.

Get the glow and radiance from such nearness to the throne as God permits to his own. Bring from a holy and divine communion a face luminous with light, and let it glow and shine on all around.

A little child on the street of a great city, wishing to cross at a point where the surging throng and the passing vehicles made the feat dangerous to the strong, and especially to the weak, paused, hesitated, and then asked a sunny-faced gentleman to carry her across. It was the sunny face that won the child's confidence. Childhood makes no mistakes.

SHARING JOYS.

It is a truth not sufficiently reflected on or put into practice, that we may everywhere be a partaker of the joys of others. It is our privilege and duty not only to enter into others' sorrow, but others' happiness. We are to rejoice with them that rejoice, as well as weep with them that weep. If we do the latter only, and not the former, our soul will be too heavily weighted. We are entitled to this compensation. Sympathy should not be restricted to a sharing of the woes of our neighbors. When we see them in bliss it is our place to give hearty thanks. The doxology should rise to our lips a great many times a day, not only for our own manifold mercies, but also for the blessings bestowed upon our fellow-men. If we are rightly attuned to praise, the happy family circle we look in upon, the successful stroke of legitimate business that we hear about, the prosperous career of a worthy man of which we read, will call forth our halleluiahs, and be a very positive accession to our own good cheer. This is a lawful part of true Christian delight. We should cultivate it more.—*Zion's Herald.*

WHO WILL APPLY?

We don't know how much the following advertisement has been circulated, but since the employment is of such a noble grade, and thinking that some of our readers may be benefited by applying for the position, we give place to it in our columns:

"Wanted, in one hundred thousand households, a willing, sunshiny daughter, who will not fret when asked to wipe the dishes, or sigh when requested to take care of the baby; a daughter whose chief delight is to smooth away a mother's wrinkles, and who is quite as willing to lighten her father's cares as his pocket; a girl who thinks her brother quite as fine a fellow as some other girl's brother. Constant love, high esteem, and a more honored place in the home guaranteed. Employment assured to all qualified applicants. Address Mother, Home Office."

QUEER SAYINGS.

America is not the only country where a "Poor Richard's Almanac" has appeared, judging by the following Chinese sayings: "When they wish to describe a person who pretends to be very brave and makes a great parade in order to show his courage, they say that 'he is cutting off a hen's head with a battle-ax.' A coward who boasts of his courage they call a 'paper tiger.' They compare a person who pretends to be what he is not, to a fox that tries to look as noble and strong as a tiger. If a person is ignorant of books, they will say, 'Turn him upside down, but not a drop of ink will come out of him.'"

Within the past few months we have received over five hundred letters containing money, without the names or post-office addresses of the writers. We have also received many letters abusing us for not filling their orders, and upon investigation it was found that no names or post-office addresses had been signed to the orders.

We are anxious to know who sent us the orders we are now holding for want of sufficient addresses, and if those who have cause for complaint will write us a plain, gentlemanly business letter, setting forth the facts, we will gladly make an investigation and rectify the error.

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E. E. HOLMAN, Architect, 1920 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Alsike Clover Seed.—F. H., Smithville, Ohio. Alsike clover seed is listed in the catalogues of all northern seedsmen.

Seed of Horse-bean.—E. R., Ohio.

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—As stated on an earlier occasion, seed of horse and other English beans may be had of J. M. Thorburn & Co., New York City.

Mixing Ashes and Stable Manure.—J. F. P., Bertram, Texas.

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—I do not mix ashes and stable manure, but prefer to apply both separately, plowing the manure under and then putting the ashes on top before barrowing.

Coal Ashes—Celery.—L. E. L., Lot, W. Va.

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Coal ashes have no particular value as a fertilizer. Sometimes they come handy as a mulch, or to loosen a stiff soil. For celery, I use White Plume for early and Giant Pascal for late. "Celery for Profit" gives all needed directions for growing the crop.

Fertilizers for Onions.—F. S., Schenectady, N. Y., writes: "Could I expect to raise a good crop of onions on land that has not been manured for several years, by applying fertilizer at the rate of 2,500 pounds to the acre?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—If the land is very rich already and full of humus, you can. Otherwise it would not be safe to depend on concentrated fertilizers alone.

Cabbage-maggot on Cauliflower.—Constant Reader.

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—The cabbage-maggot—a small, white worm or grub—is especially fond of cauliflowers, and often ruins whole crops. By using tobacco refuse freely around the young plants, or by spraying frequently with strong solutions of muriate of potash or of kalmite, I have been enabled to keep the pest in check.

Lettuce in Greenhouse Rotting.—E. B., Harrison City, Pa.

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Water on the mornings of clear days only. Do not overwater, and if possible, apply the water to the soil only, not to the plant-tops. I use flower-pots half sunk into the soil at proper intervals, between the plants, and fill them with water, letting it soak into the ground, and repeat as often as seems needed.

Ashes and Basic Slag.—J. C. V., Canton, Pa., writes: "(1) What is the manurial value of unleached, hard-wood ashes per bushel? (2) Is 'odorless' fertilizer good for potatoes and corn? (3) Is an application of hard-wood ashes good for potatoes?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—(1) The value of ashes depends on their strength. Usually, fresh wood ashes are worth nearly one half cent a pound for fertilizer, or say twenty cents per bushel. (2) The "odorless" fertilizer is a basic slag, and contains about 20 per cent phosphoric acid in a fairly available form. It is good for any place where a phosphate or superphosphate may be needed. On corn it will usually give good results, and it may on potatoes. (3) Wood ashes are safe to apply for potatoes if the land is a little acid. Otherwise we have to guard against the tendency of ashes (and all alkalies) to produce scab.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Probably Ringbone.—J. A. W., Stone Dam, N. Y. Please consult FARM AND FIRESIDE of November 15th.

A Soft Hoof.—H. S., Mascoutah, Ill. Keep your horse on a dry, clean floor, at any rate, out of mud and manure, and the hoof, unless degenerated, will improve.

Vitiated Appetite in Cattle.—H. M., Le Roy, Minn. Please consult answer to questions under above heading in a recent number of FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Hogs Dying.—W. A. M., Mt. Vernon, Mo. If your hogs steadily decline, but eat heartily until they die, I cannot answer your question, unless you give some further information.

A Barren Cow.—A. D. McC., Batavia, Iowa. Your cow, undoubtedly, was seriously damaged when the deformed calf was born, and it is improbable that she will ever have a calf again.

Rachitis.—M. F. S., Methuen, Mass. Your pigs, it seems, are rachitic. Change their food, and give them something that is sufficiently rich in phosphates and in nitrogenous compounds. See other answers under the above heading.

Kansas Buckeyes.—W. M., Muscotah, Kan. If your cows have a tendency to feast on Kansas buckeyes, or so-called horse-chestnuts, you have to keep the cows away from the places where these scrubs grow, or else have to destroy the latter.

Hind Feet of Cattle Sloughed Off.—A. S., Soldier, Idaho. May be that the hind feet of your cattle were frozen during the severe weather of last winter. If space would permit, I might have to say a little more on the subject, and also have your communication published.

Probably Actinomycosis.—W. J. F., Poland, Ohio. What you complain of may be actinomycosis; still, your description is rather indefinite. Consult a recent number of FARM AND FIRESIDE in which a full account, especially of the treatment, has been given. The same is too lengthy for reproduction.

Ringworm.—T. H. S., Gilbertsville, N. Y. Please consult the numerous answers recently given to questions under the above heading.

Probably Vertigo.—J. J. G., Mehoons Valley, Miss. Unless what you describe is attacks of vertigo, I cannot answer your question. If it is vertigo, the attacks may come on again. Nothing can be done.

Ringbone or Navicular Disease.—M. C., Greenport, N. Y. Your mare has either ringbone or navicular disease; probably the former. Please consult FARM AND FIRESIDE of November 15th.

Radial Paralysis.—T. H. L., Cloverdale, Va. What you complain of seems to be radial paralysis, brought on by overexertion. Give the horse rest, that is, exempt the same from all kinds of work, feed nutritious food, and allow voluntary exercise, and in the course of time (in five to eight months) the horse will be all right again.

Sick Horses.—E. W. H., Salubria, Idaho. I cannot answer your question, and do not know of any disease to which your descriptions apply. Is it possible that you are mistaken in regard to some of your statements? Or have some extraordinary conditions prevailed during the hard winter, of which you neglected to say anything?

Foul Sheath.—J. W. W., Girardstown, W. Va. If the sheath of your horse is getting foul, you can do nothing but frequently clean it with soap and warm water, and then after the cleaning apply to the sore surfaces a solution of alum or a mixture composed of liquid subacetate of lead and oil, one to three. The cleaning may need repetition once a week.

A Very Poor Colt.—L. K., Glens Falls, N. Y. Feed your colt sufficient quantities of nutritious food easy of digestion, and send the same to pasture as soon as the weather will permit and as soon as the young grass will be of sufficient growth. Of course, the animal, although four years old, must be exempted from work until perfectly well and in good flesh again.

Rotten Hoof.—H. E. C., Meadow Valley, Cal. I do not exactly know what you mean by "rotten or foul" hoof. Do you mean a condition identical with, or similar to thrush? If so, pare away all the loose and separated hoof, apply carbolic acid to the decayed surfaces, but don't bring it in contact with the skin, and then keep the animal on a clean and dry floor, so that the foot is not contaminated with manure, mud and filth.

Probably Swine-plague.—I. W. W., Salida, Col. The symptoms you describe are similar to those of swine-plague, or so-called hog-cholera, and therefore make it probable that swine-plague is the disease you have to do with. I do not know the effect your attitude, which you say is 7,000 feet, will have upon hogs. I cannot advise you in regard to treatment. In severe cases of swine-plague any treatment is out of the question, and even in milder cases a treatment can only be a symptomatic one. Good sanitary conditions and a proper diet will accomplish more than medicines.

Epileptic Fits.—C. E. B., Bethel, Ohio. Epileptic fits in pigs are frequently caused by so-called measles; that is, if the cystworms known as Cysticercus cellulosae are present, not only in the muscles and connective tissues, but also in the brain. These cyst-worms are the larvae of the human tapeworm, Tania solium, and pigs are apt to become infected with them if they have access to the excrement of persons that have tapeworms. Such cases can be prevented, but cannot be cured.

Habitual Luxation of the Patella.—J. L., Brooklyn, Conn., writes: "I have a colt twenty-one months old. When he gets up, after lying down, his stifle slips out, and it occurs very often when he trots."

ANSWER:—First see to it that the patella is in its place, then apply to the sides of the joint a sharp liniment—oil of cantharides, prepared by heating cantharides, one part, and olive-oil, four parts, for one hour in a water bath, and then separating the oil by straining through a piece of muslin, will answer. This done, take the animal into a narrow stall, and tie the same sufficiently high and short enough so as to make it impossible to lie down. The patient must be kept standing until the relaxed ligaments have become sufficiently contracted, because it is especially by getting up and lying down that the patella leaves its place.

A Sick Cat.—F. M., Pocantio Hills, writes: "I have a pet cat that is all the time biting and licking himself. He bites himself until the blood comes. He has no fleas, lice, breaking out or anything of that kind. He is poor. We cannot fatten him at all."

ANSWER:—It seems your cat has tapeworms—possibly Tania crassicolis, a worm which is well armed with a wreath of sharp hooks, and can cause considerable trouble and even death. You may try as a remedy the Extractum filicis maris ætherium in five-grain doses, and if you can, administer the same in gelatin capsules, of course on an empty stomach. If this is too difficult, smear five grains, or a trifle more, of the extract on a fore leg of the cat, and leave it to him to clean his dirty leg, and thus take his medicine. If one dose is not enough, another one may be given the next day.

Garget.—C. G., Belmont, Nev., and N. R. P., Nepaug, Conn. Garget, in nine cases out of ten, is caused by negligent milking and fermentation of the milk retained in the udder—a change of the sugar of milk into lactic acid—caused by the entrance of bacteria, which results in a coagulation of the casein. The latter and the fermenting principle can be removed only by frequent and thorough milking. Where it is too late for that, an endeavor may be made to cause the affected quarter to become dry. This will be facilitated by applying to the surface a salve composed of triturated gum camphor and soft soap, one to eight. The hutting of the calf does not constitute the cause. In cases of acute and very severe inflammation of the mammary glands, cases attended with high fever, a veterinarian should be called at once. At any rate, a treatment from a distance is out of the question in such cases.

Infectious Abortion.—S. L. W., Hopewell Cotton Works, Pa. What you complain of seems to be infectious abortion, unless it be that the cases of abortion are due to improper food—cotton-seed oil cakes, for instance. If unsuitable food cannot be accused—yon do not say anything about it—the first thing necessary will be to remove all the cows yet with calf, temporarily at least, to another unfected place, and there to take care of them by themselves. Secondly, to thoroughly clean and disinfect the stable, cow-yard, etc., before it is again occupied by cows with calf. Thirdly, to disinfect the genitals and tails of the cows that abort with a two-per-cent solution of carbolic acid, to be used externally, and with a one-per-cent of pure carbolic acid in water, by injecting it into the vagina. If unsuitable food, or food contaminated with fungi, should constitute the cause, the food must be changed. After everything has been thoroughly disinfected and ventilated, the cows may occupy the old place again.

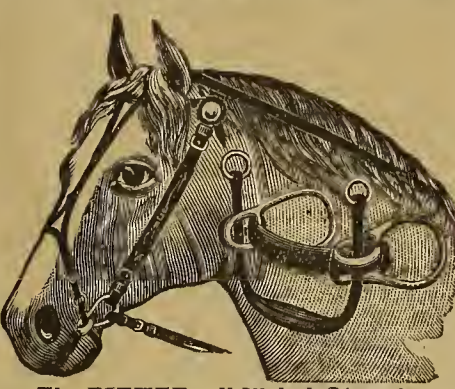
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Worms.—S. A. B., Buffalo Bluff, Fla., writes: "What is the best remedy for worms in hogs, in regions of the kidneys?"

ANSWER:—If your hogs have worms in the kidney fat, nothing can be done; but I do not see how you can diagnose their presence. I for one cannot. It is possible that paralytic symptoms exist, which you ascribe to the presence of worms. This is erroneous. Paralysis or paresis (partial paralysis) is produced by other causes, which are not by any means the same in every case.

Probably Chronic Catarrh.—D. D., Conneville, Wash. The symptoms you give are a free discharge from the nostrils, coughing and hard breathing, symptoms common to several diseases of the respiratory organs. The disease may be nothing but chronic catarrh, but for all I can make out from your description it may be something else. Frequent dosing with any kind of fluid medicine is dangerous, and rather than do that it is far better to give no medicine at all. If there are no other symptoms than those you mention, the best you can do will be to send the mare to pasture as early as possible.

Probably Calomel Poisoning.—J. R. T., Strawberry Plains, Tenn., writes: "I have a cow that refused to eat, and for sixteen days got nothing save cooked gruel, given to her in a bottle. During this time I gave her one dose of calomel, followed with salts. Five days later I gave another, and followed it with coal-oil, all the time giving her quinine twice a day. After the sixteenth day she began to eat some, and now she is eating enough to keep a cow in fair fix, but seems to lose all her strength. She had lost all flesh before she began to eat. I am now helping her up twice a day, and she can walk when up. She is, and has been for ten days past, inclined to scour. She broke out all over three weeks ago, at which time I washed her with soap and greased her. Now she is losing her hair in patches, bringing with it a thick mange, or dead skin, leaving hide somewhat blue. What is the matter?"

ANSWER:—The matter now is, it seems, calomel poisoning. Calomel, as a rule, is very poisonous to cattle, and should under no circumstances be given to them. The original disease, probably, was impaction of the third stomach. Feed food sufficiently nutritious and easy of digestion, and your cow possibly may pull through, but stop all medication. The antidotes are sulphur, sulphate of iron, albumen, iodide of potassium, etc. But I suppose it is too late for the administration of antidotes. The damage has been done.

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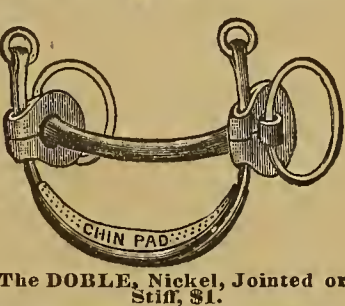
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Smiles.

STILL A DIFFERENCE.

Although the modern woman loves to imitate a man
In appearance and behavior and in every way she can,
She appropriates his styles of dress, his manners and all that,
But she doesn't tip the waiters, and she doesn't tip her hat.

—Judge.

"What's in a name?" he idly said;
For surely 'tis no sin,
If one a little Shakspeare knows,
To sometimes work it in.
And she, with that sweet maiden smile
That so a man allures,
Looked shyly down and softly said,
"There's everything in yours."

—Boston Budget.

ROTHSCHILD'S RETORT.

WRITER in *Munsey's Magazine* tells of a sharp and well-deserved retort uttered by one of the Rothschilds:
At a reception in Paris a traveler, who was a strong "Anti-Semitic," was talking to Rothschilds on the beauties of the island of Tahiti, and sarcastically remarked:
"There are neither hogs nor Jews there!"
"Indeed!" retorted Rothschild. "Then you and I should go there together. We should be great curiosities."

A REQUEST.

"Henry," she said thoughtfully.
"What is it?" responded the worried business man rather shortly.
"I wish you could rearrange your business a little bit."
"How?"
"So as to be a bear on the stock exchange instead of at home."—Judge.

EQUAL TO HER STATION.

"Well, what do you think you'll do now?" asked the neighbor who had called in to offer congratulations.
"I opionate I shall not do nothing," was the dignified reply of the young woman whose father had just struck gas, "except to decline on the sofa and pursue novels."

GO RIGHT UP HEAD.

Teacher in geography class—"Jim Smith, can you name ten animals peculiar to the arctic regions?"
Jim Smith—"Yes, sir."
Teacher—"What are they?"
Jim Smith—"Five seals and five polar bears, sir."—*Harvard Lampoon*.

TOOK HIS MITE.

Mother—"You need not have quarreled with that boy. I told you always to think before speaking."
Small son—"Oh, I did! I didn't say a word till I'd thunk up a whole lot o' names to call him."—*Street & Smith's Good News*.

REALISM IN ART.

Mrs. Beauart—"Why did you have the face of that Venus tinted with red, Mrs. Parvenoo?"
Mrs. Parvenoo—"I thought no woman could help blushin' who didn't have on no more clothes than she has!"—*Puck*.

FAINT HOPE FOR HIM.

Fortune-teller—"You will be very poor until you are thirty-five years of age."
Impecunious poet (eagerly)—"And after then?"
Fortune-teller—"You will get used to it."—*The Sketch*.

NO TIME TO LOSE.

Boarder—"Why in creation did you ring the breakfast-bell at 4 o'clock this morning?"
Cook—"The missus heard it thundering and told me to hurry up and serve breakfast before the milk soured."—*New York Weekly*.

AN ECCENTRIC MEASURE.

Mrs. Hale (just married)—"Maria, we will have eels as a second course for dinner."
Maria—"How much ought I to get, ma'am?"
Mrs. Hale—"I think twelve yards will be sufficient."—*Vogue*.

CHEAP ENOUGH.

Cutting—"These spectacles won't do, Cohen."
Cohen—"Vell, dere vos notting schmall about me. I sharges you no more for dem on daht account."

BIG GUM CONTRACT.

"Say, mister," said the little Fresh Air child, as she watched the cattle enjoying their cud, "do you have to buy gum for all of them cows to chew?"—*Mount Holly (N. J.) Mirror*.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SWEAR OFF.

The *St. Louis Journal of Agriculture* says: "We know personally of several that No-To-Bac cured. One, a prominent St. Louis Architect, who smoked and chewed for years. Two boxes cured him so that even the smell of tobacco makes him sick." No-To-Bac's guaranteed to cure tobacco habit or money refunded by druggists everywhere. Book free. Sterling Remedy Co., 10 Spruce St., N. Y., or 45 Randolph St., Chicago.

TITBITS.

Colonel Cockerill has discovered a new maxim in business philosophy by declaring that "It is oxide of irony to call a man a rusty cuss."

"Ah! half de wurl' lives by pullin' de othah half's laigs," sighed Uncle Kiah, as he softly reached for the midnight hen.—*Cleveland Plaindealer*.

"Dah ain' no doubt," said Uncle Eben, "bout contentment bein' better'n riches; but mos' eberybody now'days seems too 'p'llite ter want de bes' foh hisse'f."—*Washington Star*.

Tough—"I want a dozen eggs, an' I wants 'em bad. See?"

Grocer—"Go to that grocer across the street. Everything he keeps is bad."—*Philadelphia Inquirer*.

"Oh, grandma," said a little four-year-old tot as she beheld the earth sparkling in its frosty robe, one clear, cold morning, "Jack Frost came last night and brought all the little Frosts with him!"

She—"So you are going to California iustead of Europe?"

He—"Yes; it's easier to get back."

She—"How is it?"

He—"The walking's better."

"You're not a cousin or anything like that of our fair hostess, are you?"

"No; nothing of that sort."

"Well, did you ever attend such a stupid affair in your life?"

"Ye-es, a good many. I-I'm her husband, you see, and I have to."—*New York Recorder*.

"I told you you would be seeing snakes if you didn't stop," said the physician.

"Snakes!" shrieked the sufferer, his teeth chattering. "Snakes are not in it at all. I wouldn't mind snakes. I see modern art posters!" And the trembling victim buried his head in the bedclothes and shrieked and moaned and gibbered.—*Cincinnati Tribune*.

Dr. Parkhurst has coined a new word. He calls it "andromania," and says that it means "the passionate desire of women to ape everything that is mannish." Everything is a too sweeping word. Women have not tried to raise beards. They are opposed to them. Many of them, indeed, carry opposition so far as to set their faces against them.—*Brooklyn Eagle*.

The ability of children to ask questions which the wisest parents cannot answer is proverbial.

Little Gertrude, entering a butcher's shop for the first time, stood gazing around her in silent absorption. Presently she took her mother by the hand, and leading her to where hung a string of bologna sausages, she put a tiny finger on one big sausage and gravely inquired:

"Mama, what was this when it was alive?"

"Are you the man who painted that 'ere picture of 'Moses in the Bullrushes?'" asked a countryman of an artist who had recently startled the town by an exhibition of oil-paintings.

"Yes," replied the artist.

"All right; then I want you to paint my father."

"Certainly, if he gives me a few sittings."

"Can't do it; he's dead."

"Let me have a photograph of him."

"Can't do that, neither. He never had his picture taken."

"I am afraid, then, I must decline."

"Decline! What for? Haven't you painted Moses? You didn't have a photograph of him, did you? No, I thought not. Well, my father ain't been dead nearly so long as Moses; you ought to know enough to paint my father."

Appreciating the situation, the artist went to work and evolved such a portrait as he thought might satisfy so original a son.

"Crikey!" exclaimed the art patron on seeing the completed painting. "That almost knocks the stuffing out of Moses; but, I say, how he has changed."

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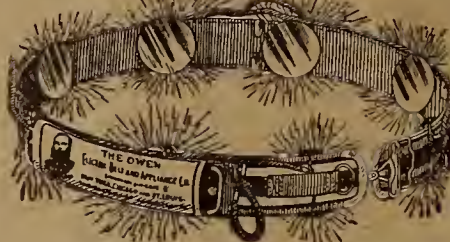
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Selections.

A VERSE FROM THE OLD ENGLISH READER.

Our portion is not large indeed!
But then how little do we need!
For nature's calls are few:
In this the art of living lies,
To want no more than may suffice,
And make that little do.

—Cotton.

THE OBJECTS FOUND AT POMPEII.

I HAVE just had a private view of the silver objects lately found at Pompeii, which are now in the museum here, but not yet publicly exhibited, being kept in a case in one of the deposit-rooms. They have evidently all belonged to the same table-service. The most interesting object is a small figure in silver of Jupiter, which, together with its tiny square pedestal, is not more than three inches high. The figure, seated on a high-backed throne, is most delicately chiseled, and in spite of corrosion, the features are tolerably distinct. The head resembles that of the Olympian Joves. The left arm is missing, but from the position of the socket it must have been raised on high, and probably held a scepter, the end of which rested on the ground. The mantle is folded over the left shoulder, and falls in graceful drapery across the knees. The right hand rests on the right knee and holds the lightning. Of the sandaled feet, the right rests on the pedestal, while the left is slightly raised, as if it had had a footstool beneath it, now missing. The whole was most likely an ornament of some central piece belonging to the service. There are four deep silver wine-cups on slender pedestals, perfectly plain, and generally as bright as if the housewife had yesterday taken them from her cupboard. Also, several small plates or saucers, with finely chiseled rims, bearing a pattern of foliage, flowers, swans and panthers in a running design. A small silver sieve would seem to indicate that wine was warmed with some herbs or other ingredients and poured through it into the cups, as it is of just the fitting size. There is also a little silver bottle, with narrow neck, and holes in the bottom, as if for sprinkling spice. Some smaller and larger spoons, egg-cups of different sizes and quite plain, and a flat, round, bronze dish, which has been lined with silver, now almost all destroyed and separated in flakes from the bronze, are the remaining objects of this interesting service of silver plate. There are no initials or signs to denote either the goldsmith who executed or the owner who possessed it. The objects have not yet been studied or explained by the savants of the museum, nor can I tell you to what period they are supposed to belong.—*Naples letter to London Daily News.*

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THE JAP'S MILITARY KIT.

The Japanese papers to hand by the last mail are full of details concerning the prowess, the deeds of valor and the equipment of the Japanese soldiers in the field against China. It is interesting to know that each soldier is rigidly limited to his marching-kit as personal baggage. Officers are allowed such luxuries as a change of clothes. The kit of the private soldier is slightly lighter than the European average; it includes a spare pair of boots (new), change of underwear, overcoat with hood, pocket filter, field-glasses, four pairs of straw sandals, water-bottle, bag to carry four days' compressed rice, magazine rifle and ammunition and sword bayonet. Many of them have bought old blades by celebrated makers to fit on the bayonet handle, as the excellent qualities of old Japanese swords are well known.—*Glasgow Mail.*

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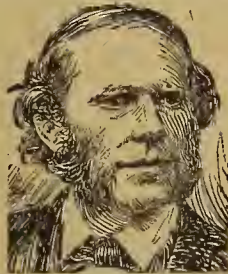
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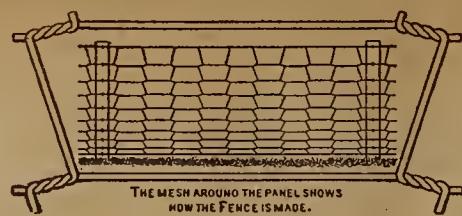
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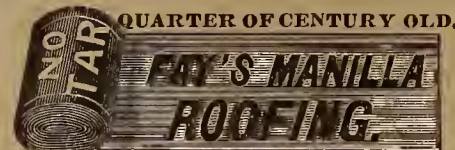
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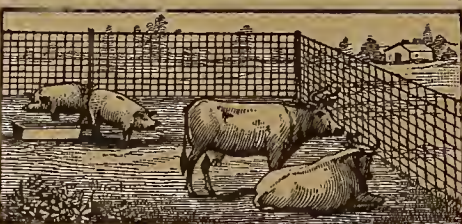
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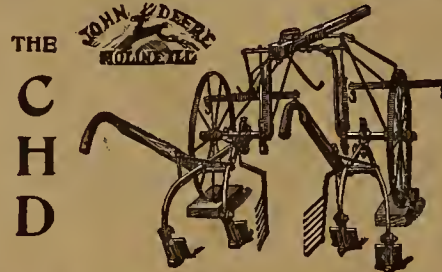
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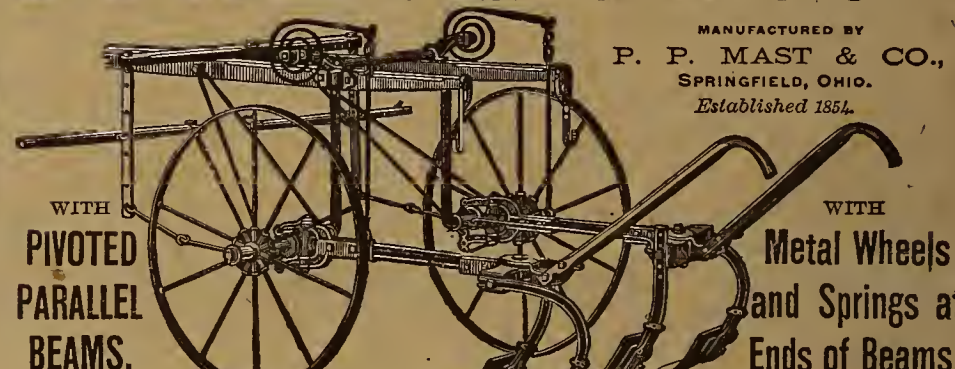
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VOL. XVIII. NO. 15.

MAY 1, 1895.

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INFORMATION FOR ADVERTISERS.

Average circulation of FARM AND
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292,033

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"Under wise and constitutional legislation every citizen should contribute his proportion, however small the sum, to the support of the government, and it is no kindness to urge any of our citizens to escape from that obligation. If he contributes the smallest mite of his earnings to that purpose, he will have a greater regard for the government and more self-respect for himself, feeling that though he is poor in fact, he is not a pauper of his government. And it is to be hoped that, whatever woes and embarrassments may betide our people, they may never lose their manliness and self-respect. Those qualities preserved, they will ultimately triumph over all reverses of fortune.

"If the provisions of the Constitution can be set aside by an act of Congress, where is the course of usurpation to end? The present assault upon capital is but the beginning. It will be the stepping-stone to others, large and more sweeping, till our political contests will become a war of the poor against the rich; a war constantly growing in intensity and bitterness. If the court sanctions the power of discriminating taxation and nullifies the uniformity mandate of the Constitution, as said by one who has been all his life a student of our institutions, 'it will mark the hour when the sure decadence of our present government will commence.'

"I am of opinion the whole law of 1894 should be declared void and without any binding force—that part which relates to the tax on the rents, profits or income from real estate, that in so much as constitutes the direct tax because not imposed by the rule of apportionment according to the representation of the states, as prescribed by the Constitution, and that part which imposes a tax upon the bonds and securities of the several states, upon bonds and securities of their municipalities, as being beyond the power of Congress to impose, and the law so far as it imposes duties, imposts and excises as void in not providing for the uniformity required by the Constitution in such cases."

THE foreseeing have for some time recognized that the greatest menace to our free institutions lay in our great centers of population. During the past eighteen months a wave of reform has been pushing itself forward throughout the whole country. We have in previous numbers called the attention of our readers to the splendid results of Dr. Parkhurst's work in New York City, and have referred to the reforms stimulated in San Francisco, New Orleans and Philadelphia.

After long years of municipal corruption, Chicago seems to have determined to cleanse her Augean stables. Reform and civil service were the watchwords of the April election. George B. Swift, Republican reform candidate, was elected by a majority of over forty thousand, and the civil service measure was carried by a majority of over forty-five thousand.

Few probably realize how much this reform movement in Chicago is due to the work of the distinguished English journalist, W. T. Stead, of the *Review of Reviews*. Following up his suggestion, the Civic



GEORGE B. SWIFT.

Federation was organized, and to this organization is due largely the great majorities at this last election. If the people only knew it, they are sovereign and their will is law; but organization and concentration of endeavor is absolutely necessary to carry forward the people's wishes.

THE Illinois democracy is in a state of violent agitation over the money question. Extremists have been working actively to get the party committed to silver monometallism. Others have been trying to "head off" the stampede, and have called on President Cleveland for help, and he responded by writing a letter. Although failing to define sound money and safe currency, this letter is clear and forceful against the illusions and evils of a debased currency. It reads in part as follows:

"What is now needed more than anything else is a plain and simple presentation of the argument in favor of sound money. In other words, it is time for the American people to reason together as members of a great nation which can promise them a continuance of protection and safety only so long as its solvency is unsuspected, its honor unsullied, and the soundness of its money unquestioned. These things are all exchanged for the illusions of a debased currency and the groundless hope of advantages to be gained by a disregard of our financial credit and commercial standing among the nations of the world.

"In these restless days the farmer is tempted by the assurance that though our currency may be debased, redundant and uncertain, such a situation will improve the price of his products. Let us remind him that he must buy as well as sell; that his dreams of plenty are shaded by the certainty that if the price of things he has to sell is nominally enhanced, the cost of the things he must buy will not remain stationary; that the best prices which cheap money proclaims are unsubstantial and elusive; and that even if they were real and palpable, he must necessarily be left far behind in the race for their enjoyment.

"It ought not to be difficult to convince the wage-earner that if there were benefits arising from a degenerated currency, they would reach him least of all and last of all. In an unhealthy stimulation of prices an increased cost of all the needs of his home must long be his portion, while he is at the same time vexed with vanishing visions of increased wages and an easier lot. The pages of history and experience are full of this lesson.

"If reckless discontent and wild experiment should sweep our currency from its safe support, the most defenseless of all who suffer in that time of distress and of national discredit will be the poor, as they reckon the loss in their scanty support, and the laborer and the working-man, as he sees the money he has received for his toil shrink and shrivel in his hand when he tenders it for the necessities to supply his humble home.

"Disguise it as we may, the line of battle is drawn between the forces of safe currency and those of silver monometallism. I will not believe that if our people are afforded an intelligent opportunity for sober second thought they will sanction schemes that, however cloaked, mean disaster and confusion; nor that they will consent, by undermining the foundation of a safe currency, to endanger the beneficent character and purposes of their government."

THE great war in the Orient is at an end, or practically over. The conditions of the treaty have been signed, and only wait the ratification by the imperial authority. While the conditions in detail are not known, it is safe to say that Japan has dealt fairly with her opponent. China will cede Formosa to Japan, and probably pay an indemnity of from one hundred to one hundred and fifty million dollars; Corea will be recognized as an independent state, and the points on the mainland of the continent already taken by Japan will be held as surety.

It is also intimated that China and Japan have formed a defensive and offensive alliance. If this is one of the terms of the treaty, it will make the yellow race forever predominate in the Orient. There are those who believe that this is not encouraging for the rest of the world; but if China assumes the new civilization, we have really as little to fear as if she continues her conservative policy of stagnation. The English-speaking race predominates, and its mission is to the world. Whatever has made Japan a great nation in these few years, she has taken from the Anglo-Saxon races. These two great countries will never outrun their leaders. By opening up China, new impetus will be given to the world movement of the nineteenth century civilization.

AT the first annual meeting of the National Association of Cycle Manufacturers, recently held in New York, there were present thirty members, representing a capital of about \$90,000,000. These figures indicate to what magnificent proportions this new industry has grown from a small beginning only a few years ago.

IN passing upon the income tax case the United States Supreme Court decided

That the act of 1894 is invalid so far as it attempts to impose a tax upon the rent or income of real estate without apportionment.

That it is invalid so far as it attempts to levy a tax upon the income derived from state, county and municipal bonds, because it is in effect a tax upon states, and impairs their power to borrow money.

Upon all other points submitted in the case, including the constitutionality of the law in general, the eight justices who heard the arguments were equally divided, and therefore unable to make a decision.

The decision, or rather indecision, of the Supreme Court unfortunately leaves in operation an income tax system even more unfair and odious than the one adopted by Congress. Incomes from industry will be taxed. Incomes from investments in bonds and real estate will be exempt. The very class the socialists wanted to strike is now out of reach. The blow will fall upon the merchant, the manufacturer and the producer. For this, however, Congress, and not the Supreme Court, is to blame. The blundering bunglers who made and passed the act are responsible. There is a constitutional way for the federal government to tax incomes from real estate, but they deliberately avoided it. If the act is not completely overthrown in the course of litigation now pending, it will in all probability be repealed by the next Congress.

The following extracts are from the opinion of Justice Field:

"The income tax law under consideration is marked by discriminating features which affect the whole law. It discriminates between those who receive an income of \$4,000 and those who do not. It thus vitiates, in my judgment, by this arbitrary discrimination, the whole legislation. The legislation, in the discrim-

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FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Springfield, Ohio.

The Advertisers in this Paper.

We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Oleo. Seventy million pounds of oleomargarin were made in the United States in 1894. Nearly all of it was sold fraudulently to the consumer as butter and for the price of butter. Every pound thus consumed destroyed the sale of a pound of butter, and thus defrauded the butter producer. The consumer of oleo was cheated. He paid the price of butter and got an unwholesome imitation of not one fifth the market value of the genuine article.

Alfalfa Irrigation. The March quarterly report of the Kansas department of agriculture treats on some very important subjects that are just now of special interest to western farmers. Its leading features are: Alfalfa culture; irrigation as applicable to Kansas, especially upon the higher lands; the well-water supply in western Kansas, and subsoiling. Secretary F. D. Coburn, Topeka, Kan., will mail copies to applicants on receipt of six cents to cover postage.

Whey Butter Is the title of a bulletin recently issued from the Cornell University agricultural experiment station, at Ithaca, N. Y. Last January the instructors in the dairy school began to run the whey from the cheese-making regularly through the cream-separators, and have been successful in securing most of the butter fat in whey in the form of commercial butter of good quality. The whey is run through the separators immediately after it is drawn from the cheese-vats, and the resulting cream churned as soon as convenient. The quality of the product is good, and it goes to the same market as the butter made in the ordinary way. The bulletin estimates that nearly \$1,000,000 worth of good butter could be secured annually from the whey produced in New York state.

Weather—Crop Service. The National Weather Bureau and the state weather services throughout the country collect and publish in bulletin form, from week to week during the season of planting, cultivating and harvesting of crops, prevailing weather conditions and their effects upon farming operations and crops. The national bulletin treats of the general weather and crop conditions of the whole country; the state bulletins give detailed information concerning the weather and its effects upon the various staples of the several states.

The national bulletin furnishes to all classes interested in agriculture—producer, consumer and dealer—accurate and impartial information as to actual weather and crop conditions from week to week throughout the season. Mark W. Harrington, chief of Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C., will, as far as the limited edition will allow, furnish copies of the national bulletin to postmasters or others who may be willing to give the bulletin prominent display for the benefit of the public.

Return of Clews' Financial Review of April 13th says:

Prosperity. "All the commercial symptoms continue to be encouraging. The upward tendency in the prices of merchandise becomes more marked, which means not only a sustained increase in the demand for goods, but also a growth of confidence among the trading community. We have witnessed this week a pronounced advance in petroleum, cotton and beef. Coal has also been marked up and also silver, thus showing the tendency of products to seek a higher valuation. It is an evidence that the country is waking up from its long-existing condition of pessimism, and that the brighter side is becoming visible to those engaged in business undertakings. The outlook for the crops generally has materially improved of late."

"What this country particularly wants this year, however, is a good yield of corn, and not excessive ones in either wheat or cotton. The two latter crops can be too large to be of benefit, while the former cannot be, as it is a product that never deteriorates with age, and makes the most solid and healthful food for both man and beast. In it we have little competition with other nations, and no fear of any. It is therefore entitled to be considered the king of crops in this country, and has dethroned cotton, which used to be so considered."

Beef and Cattle Prices. "It seems clear," says Bradstreet's, "that the advance in prices of cattle and meat, so noticeable lately, is due to shortage in supply. The low prices that prevailed the past three years made it unprofitable for farmers and ranchmen to carry large numbers. The drought last year and high prices of feed necessitated unusually close marketing. Hard times also caused free selling. The result is being realized. The prospective supply in the West is 25 to 40 per cent short of last year, and will remain so for at least two years, as it requires from two to three years to fully develop a prime steer. That there is a marked shortage is apparent in a reduction in receipts of cattle at Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City and Omaha since January 1st of 275,000 as compared with last year, and 315,000 from the first three months in 1893. The decrease is estimated to be equal to 175,000,000 pounds of dressed beef. The slaughtering at the points named since January 1st is equal to 9½ per cent, and receipts to 14 per cent."

"The question is one of supply and demand. Prices of live cattle are \$1.60 per one hundred pounds higher than last year, but are 25 cents lower than the top this year, and \$1 higher than the low point this year. Dressed beef is 2½ cents higher than last year on the average. Butchers' cattle are inquired for so freely, owing to the high price of prime steers, that the supply is too small to go around. Prices are the highest since 1885. If cattle were in the country they would be marketed, as recent prices have never failed to bring them out. There are no indications of any combination."

Spray for Codling-Moth. Secretary Morton said: "The apple trade of the United States with foreign countries has always been profitable. The demand for apples grown in the United States has always been in excess of the supply. The United Kingdom of Great Britain alone, during the nine months ending September, 1894, paid the orchards of the United States \$2,500,000. The greatest enemy to our export apple is the 'codling-moth.' But the entire crop can be made wormless if the orchardists of the United States will use the following recipe:

"Use Paris green at the rate of one pound to 150 gallons of water. Weigh out sufficient poison for the capacity of the tank used, and make it into a thin paint with a

small quantity of water, and add powdered or quick lime equal to the weight of poison used, mixing thoroughly. The lime takes up the free arsenic, and removes the danger of scalding. Strain the mixture into the spray-tank, taking care to pulverize and wash all the poison through the strainer. During the operation of spraying, see that the liquid is agitated with sufficient frequency to prevent the settling of the poison.

"The prime essential in spraying is to break up the liquid into a fine mist, so as to coat every leaf and part of the plant as lightly as is consistent with thoroughness. This should not require more than from three to seven gallons for a comparatively large fruit-tree."

"Let the first spraying follow within a week after the falling of the blossoms of either apple or pear, and follow this with a second treatment just before the fruit turns down on the stem, or when it is from one fourth to one half an inch in diameter. The first spraying reaches the eggs laid by the moth in the flower end of the fruit, shortly after the falling of the blossoms, and the second the later eggs laid by belated moths. Do not spray trees when in bloom, and if a washing rain immediately follows treatment, repeat the application."

"Knapsack sprayers suitable for applying the insecticide can now be obtained at reasonable prices at all agricultural implement stores."

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

A Timely Word About Spraying. That spraying with germ-killing mixtures (the so-called fungicides) will help us to get the better of many of our most common and most destructive plant diseases should not be doubted any longer, provided, however, that it is done in the right way; namely, in proper season and thoroughly enough. Unfortunately, the work is often done imperfectly, either too late, or with badly prepared mixtures, or insufficient quantities, that in more than half the cases the people who use the spraying mixtures fail to see the expected and hoped-for results. Then we hear the wail that "spraying does not pay." Sometimes the season is against us, too. Then, again, there are some of these plant diseases, like the celery-blight and the early-potato blight, which we may not yet have learned to treat in the right way.

The Early Spray. The most pronounced results which I have ever been able to secure were on my grapes. Where I have omitted the protective treatment, the vines have usually fallen an easy prey to anthracnose and other vine diseases. Whenever I have sprayed the dormant wood in April with a simple solution of sulphate (either iron or copper) so thoroughly that the vines were dripping wet, they have remained comparatively free from disease. If the treatment is continued year after year, the mildews and rots will be gradually driven out of the vineyard. I find that there is a cumulative effect of this treatment, and the longer we continue to spray in this manner, the surer we are of seeing our grapes free from disease attacks. As a further precaution, we may make later sprayings with the Bordeaux mixture, but I find that the spray on the still leafless wood is by far the most important. At that time we can use the strong sulphate unweakened by the addition of lime, without which latter it cannot be applied to the foliage. If you omit this first spraying (and it is the simplest and most convenient of all to make), you should not complain when the results are not as striking as you had expected. These remarks apply not only to grapes, but to fruit-trees, and I think also to the various kinds of berry-bushes, especially gooseberries.

The Later Sprayings. If you have let the time slip by for making the stronger spray on the dormant wood, all you can do then is to use mixtures promptly that, though weakened by lime additions or otherwise, are safe to put on the leaves. Thus far we do not know of anything that is better than the so-called Bordeaux mixture. But if you value your fruit, especially apples, be sure to apply it just as soon as the leaves make their first appearance and before the blossoms expand. In fact, you cannot be too quick about it. There is now not much surface to go over, and you can well afford to do thorough work in spraying. Put the stuff right on so as to be sure to coat every

portion of tree or bush over with the fungus-killing mixture. At the same time you should not omit putting Paris green into the application. Our apple and pear trees here are badly infested with the bud-worm just about this time, and other leaf-eaters will soon make their appearance, and if not headed off in good season they may do considerable mischief. I think I shall use about one pound of Paris green to one hundred gallons of water. This is stronger than generally recommended, but I wish to make sure work of it and not be baffled in my efforts of saving the tree foliage in consequence of the poor quality of the poison. The next spraying should be done immediately after the blossoming season. Never spray while the bloom is on, for fear of poisoning bees and perhaps other insects which are necessary to transfer the pollen from one blossom to another, and from one tree to another, and thus make the trees set fruit. This spray right after blossoming is the one where the admixture of Paris green is of the greatest importance. In poisoning the codling-worm it is now or never. You can reach this fellow with poisonous mixtures only at the time that it tries to effect an entrance into the fruit. This it does when the apples are just "set."

Preparing Bordeaux Mixture. A Michigan subscriber asks me whether I strain the mixture. This moves me to say that we must make our spraying mixtures in the right way, or we might as well keep our hands off the whole business. If the mixture is not properly made, we will only reap a crop of disappointment, and afterward join in the wail that spraying does not pay. In the first place, it is always safest to prepare the mixtures freshly for every application. You might make a stock solution of copper sulphate, and even keep the lime on hand already slaked. But the bluestone solution is easily made, and if you will only keep the copper salt suspended in the water, say in a basket or bag, so that the saturated solution of it can sink down and give the clearer water near the surface a chance to work on the crystals and take up more of the solid substance, the whole will readily dissolve in very short order. Then in another vessel slake the fresh lime. Be sure that it is newly burnt lime, not old, stale stuff. Use enough of lime to be sure that the excess of sulphuric acid in the bluestone will not burn the foliage. Better an excess of lime than of the acid. On the other hand, if you use too much lime, the mixture may clog the spray nozzle.

The test with a solution of yellow prussiate of iron (ferrocyanide) in water is simple and safe. Get five cents' worth in the nearest drug-store, and dissolve a little of it in rain-water in a little vial. When you pour a few drops of this into the Bordeaux mixture, and you do not see a dark brownish stain, there is lime enough in it. You may add a trifle more lime in order to be on the safe side, but a very little of it will do. Many persons do not like to fuss with such tests, and with chemicals in general with the real nature of which they are not familiar.

A Simple Formula. For these people, and for all who use the Bordeaux mixture only on a very small scale, there is a simple and easily remembered formula which answers every practical purpose. It is as follows: One pound of copper sulphate, one pound of lime, ten gallons of water. Dissolve the copper, slake the lime, and make the mixture in the same way, as for larger quantities, without using the ferrocyanide test. Just pour the milk or cream of lime into the copper solution, stirring the mixture well all the time. If the lime is fresh, this formula provides for plenty of it, and the whole is just about of proper strength. Of course, there will be some stony or gritty sediment in the lime. This we do not want, as it would clog the nozzle badly while spraying. I always try to retain as much as possible of this sediment when I pour the lime into the copper solution. But even this precaution does not save us the necessity of straining the whole mixture. There is no need of fearing this job. Just suspend a bag made of a piece of old fertilizer-sack or of similar coarse cloth over or into the barrel that you wish to fill with the mixture, and pour it in and through the simple strainer. In the foregoing I think I have given you the whole of the spraying business in a nutshell.

T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

VARIETIES OF THE SWEET POTATO.

THE nomenclature of the sweet potato is miserable and altogether unreliable. One variety is often known by many different names.

The Nansemond, a yellow potato of medium size, and very smooth, is the favorite in the northern market. Its meat is rather firm and dry; there are many other varieties decidedly superior to it in quality. This variety is known in the North as the Jersey Sweet, and is largely grown in New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia. In the South it is known as the Mississippi Yellow, or Mississippi Yellow Yam. The leaf is small and entire, some being heart-shaped and some slightly shouldered; the foliage is slight and light green in color.

In the South every forked-leaf, yellow potato is known as the Yellow Yam. This class, though generally small yielders, possesses superior eating qualities, and the name is the synonym of excellence. There are five or six varieties, some being dry and sweet and others soft and sweet. The variety of this class which possesses the highest eating qualities has a rather long root of medium size, and veined; its skin is a little rough and a rich yellow; the flesh is a rich yellow with streaks of orange. In quality it is decidedly above any other sweet potato. Its soft, juicy sweetness, when once tasted, can never be forgotten. The Yam is partial in its growth, requiring a sandy clay loam of good fertility.

The Queen is the favorite in the South—the home of the sweet potato—and is the best all-purpose sweet potato grown. Some varieties may possess better eating qualities, some may be a little earlier or a little more productive, and others may be more attractive in appearance, but no other one variety combines so many good qualities. It is early, prolific, of excellent quality, a fine keeper and shipper, a good selling potato, and suited to any soil. Truckers like it because it yields well, keeps well, and grows well in any soil; marketmen and grocers like it because it will bear rough handling and also please customers; wholesale men and commission merchants like it because it ships well. Any sweet potato will stand shipment better if put on cars direct from the cellar.

The Strasburg, most probably a sport from the Bermuda, is the favorite for early use on the Nashville market. It is a variety not widely known. It belongs to a class of sweet potatoes which are individual in their habits of growth. Roots of this class germinate quickly and produce many slips, are large, short, surface usually ridged deeply, and of inferior quality. This class, however, are early and productive, and every grower of sweet potatoes should have a few for early use. The Red Jersey, about the same as the Bermuda and Peabody in every respect, and the Early Golden belong to this class. The Strasburg and Early Golden so much resemble that they should be called one and the same. Every distinction should have a difference. This class is also suited to any soil.

The Nigger Choker (I call it this because it is the name by which it is most widely known) is variously known as Orleans Red, Louisiana Red, Shaker Red, Red Yam, Black Yam, Mexican Yam, and perhaps by other names. The name Nigger Choker is also sometimes given to the Bermuda, and the name Red Yam is also given to another variety which has a pale red skin and a deep yellow flesh. The Nigger Choker, as here listed, has a purple vine, the potato is long and irregular in shape, skin aniline, flesh snow-white, and is dry, mealy and sweet. It takes the name Yam perhaps from its divided leaf. The leaf is not divided as is that of the Yam; its center lobe is long, and the two small lobes at its base on either side might be called shoulders to this main lobe. This variety is grown from Kentucky to the Gulf, and possesses individual characteristics. It is slow to germinate, and is therefore a good variety for late spring. While its range of adaptability to different soils is large, the variety decidedly has its preference. It does not love a poor soil, which is immaterial with many varieties.

The Shanghai, or California, is similar to the Queen in habits of growth and general appearance. Its keeping and eating qualities are good, and it decidedly stands at

the head of the list as a producer. I will remark here that the soil and size of the root has much to do with the quality of any variety of the sweet potato. It is an excellent variety for stock.

The Bunch (or Vineless) Yam is a variety of late introduction, and the biggest novelty among sweet potatoes. It belongs to the Yam family, as its name indicates. It is also partial to certain soils, yields about like other Yams, and is only moderate in quality. Being upright in growth, with very short vines, it can be cultivated like the Irish potato. Remember, though, farmers, that it will not keep down the grass and weeds as other varieties. The Bunch Yam stands drought well; its vines can be easily mowed for hay, and its keeping qualities are good. Considering the novelty of the variety and some good qualities it has, agriculturists should give it a trial.

The varieties of the sweet potato are marked and many, though there are not nearly so many varieties as names. The Louisiana state experiment station, at Baton Rouge, gives thirty-six different varieties. Many of these have not a marked difference. Climate and soil have much to do with varieties. A careful comparison and discrimination would greatly reduce the number. Varieties differ from each other in shape, size and color of the leaves and roots, color and nature of vine and foliage, eating and keeping qualities of the roots, and productiveness and habits of growing. The average farmer makes his discrimination in the shape and color of leaves and roots and the eating qualities of the potatoes. I have presented above such varieties as I thought would be of general interest. It is hard to discuss such a subject without being tedious. I shall therefore ask the amateur to excuse me.

The sweet potato yields from 100 to 400 bushels per acre ordinarily, depending upon the soil, climate, cultivation and the variety, and is best suited to a good sandy clay loam. This is perhaps the favorite vegetable of the South, being grown in every family garden, whether he be rich or poor, white or black. Though widely grown in southern states, there are few southerners who know anything of the different varieties of the sweet potato. Nearly every section of the United States will grow most of the above varieties, the hardiest and earliest of them, to say the least, and it is strange the sweet potato is not more widely grown, and that varieties are not better known both North and South.

JNO. C. BRIDGEWATER.

Tennessee.

HOW SHALL WE START IN SHEEP AGAIN?

There are evidences, other than the great reduction in numbers, that a reaction is coming in the sheep business. No one thinks there is a question as to the revival of interest in business and the sheep industry along with better times. The experience of the last two years has knocked a good deal of sentiment out of wool growers—especially political wool growers.

The sheep industry has a strong place in the heads and hearts of the people of the United States. Very few of those who have sold their flocks intend to stay out of the business. Many of them sold under a protest, and intended to buy in again as soon as they thought it would pay to raise wool.

It is plainly seen that wool will not hold first place in the new era that we are entering upon. The mutton is of first importance, and wool is to be, can be and must be a strong second in the future sheep husbandry of the United States. We shall call this future sheep industry the mutton era, not because less wool will be raised, but because the mutton product will protect the wool, and give permanence as well as prosperity to sheep raising.

This opinion is shared by the friends of sheep from every quarter, and is the experience of sheep raisers everywhere. Australia is figuring on mutton to save them as it has New Zealand. The same is true of South America and South Africa.

It is but natural that our sheepmen should do as they did aforetime—look to the Merino sheep as the most useful sheep to raise. It is true, the Merino, of all breeds of sheep, suffered most by the disturbances that came to the sheep industry. There is a sort of notion existing that the Merino has been knocked out; that some other kind of a sheep must be resorted to if prosperity and stability is to be experienced in this country again. In this they seem to forget the knowledge they have of the Merino, its hardiness, hard-working qualities and its vigor under

trials and difficulties. It is well to remember its fleece qualities, and that the mutton of the Merino has been tested thoroughly, and has not found one to rise up and condemn it during the last few years. This was not so when, years ago, it was kept for wool until too late to make prime mutton. Young, thrifty, well-fatted Merino mutton passes critical inspection now with the best in the land. Its size is a popular one with butchers and consumers the world over. In this particular it outrivals the larger breeds, and requires the early killing of them to meet the best market.

Again, right here the British breeds are possessed of an advantage. They get the standard size and fatness at an age that is most economical and profitable to the grower. In this the mutton Merino far surpasses the type used during the wool era of our sheep industry. Of this we will have more to say later on.

What sort of a sheep will meet the needs of American sheep raisers under the new conditions that now confront the sheep raisers? As some types of the Merino, as said above, lack some essential qualities to meet the wants of the times, I shall outline my views by quoting what is said in the *American Farmer* of the Suffolk sheep, which has recently been introduced into this country. In this I do not wish to be understood as depreciating other breeds, but use this to show what may be a reliable standard for all breeds to work to, and to it they must come if the best results are obtained. I quote:

"SOME GOOD POINTS IN A SUFFOLK SHEEP.

"The Suffolk is a very prolific breed, as is shown by the following: Registered flocks of this breed report, since 1887, the following number of lambs to each one hundred ewes: 1887, 131.63; 1888, 133.67; 1889, 134.50; 1890, 133.14; 1891, 132.60; 1892, 125.22. The Iowa Suffolk Sheep Company in 1893, 174.2, and 1894, 166.04 per cent of lambs.

"WEIGHTS OF SUFFOLK SHEEP.

"In ordinary farm condition, lambs, 50 to 100 pounds; yearlings, 100 to 200 pounds; and two-year-olds, 175 to 250 pounds. Rams are usually heavier than ewes. Have lambs now four months old weighing 115 to 120 pounds. We have two-year-old ewes, at present writing, weighing 230 pounds, and rams 275 pounds.

"Breeds of sheep with records of early maturity and fecundity that entitle them to public favor with mutton-lamb raisers, should look well to their honors while the Suffolks are able to show such wonderful performances."

Under such conditions as now exist, and that may, for aught we now know, continue for some time, it is of the highest importance to start into sheep with all the advantages of breeds that are possible. The true battle of the breeds is on, and must be decided by results in the pastures and at the stock-yards. "Behold, old things have passed away and all things have, or may, become new." The question has to be met and solved wisely, or all will be a failure.

R. M. BELL.

FARM HANDS.

Of late years there has been such a steady flow of laboring men from country to town and city, that it has now become a difficult task to secure efficient and trustworthy help on the farm. Formerly, farmers could usually secure the services of some neighbor's son who was already well trained in farm work. He was taken into the home of the farmer and treated as one of the family. He took an interest in seeing the work done properly, and took an equal pride in large crops and fine-looking stock.

But a change has taken place. Available farmers' sons are seldom to be found, and if found at all, do not prove to be of the disposition formerly common. They must have horse and buggy furnished, or room to house the latter and stall-room and feed for the former. They claim all holidays, and frequently demand Saturday afternoons besides. They prefer to spend the evenings loafing at the village stores rather than with the farmer's family. The loss of sleep causes them to be dull, stupid and heedless the following day. They take no interest in their work, care nothing for stock or crops, and must be watched constantly, or their work will not be half done, the chief object with such hands being to draw their wages.

Before starting on a farm for myself, I worked among the neighboring farmers for a time, and always did the work as

nearly right as I could, and it made no difference whether any one was in sight or not, I continued on with the work. Such was the rule among those who desired to be classed among the steady work-hands. If two or more of us were working together, we sometimes vied with each other as to which could do the most, and frequently each sought to have his work performed in best shape. But it seems now that the steady young men have found employment elsewhere, and only the inferior ones remain, though farm wages have not declined as have the prices of farm products; indeed, they rather appear to be somewhat advanced. Seventy-five cents and board was formerly considered fair wages, but it is now scarcely possible to secure any help for less than a dollar. Sixteen to eighteen dollars per month, with board and washing, would formerly secure the best of hands. Now the poor ones want twenty dollars, board, washing, mending, horse and buggy kept or furnished.

It is really odd to see how heedless some hands are. I remember once sending out a hand to plant some squash and pumpkin seeds. He was given about three quarts of seed, and spent the entire forenoon in the field, but reported the work finished when he came in to dinner. Not a single plant made its appearance. The seed was not at fault, for I had planted some myself with good results, so I concluded the young man fed the seeds to the hogs, and took a nap in some shady spot until the dinner-bell aroused him from his dreams of arduous toil.

Another hand was once left to build some fence, while I was away. Shortly after dinner my wife looked out to see how the fence was progressing, but looked in vain, as she supposed, for the man, though she saw his coat hanging over the fence. Several times during the afternoon, as she was about her work, she glanced toward the field to see, if possible, what had become of the hand. His coat remained hanging over the fence, but evidently he had gone to some other part of the farm. Finally the bell was rung for supper, and the coat straightened up, ready for a good, square meal. We supposed he had become faint and weary, hung himself up to rest, and nothing short of the supper-bell could have revived him. This man was an excellent hand, however, when I could work with him.

One hand has continued to assist me during the busy season for the last seven or eight years. He demands the best wages, and can always be depended upon to do his work well. He is somewhat slow, but his work does not have to be done over again. I usually engage him a year in advance, in order to be sure of his services. He is as honest as the day is long, not given to bad language or bad habits, and well knows how to do all kinds of farm work. But one would hunt several days to find another equally reliable.

There is still a place for the faithful farm-hand, but the farmers of to-day are disposed to do their own work, by the aid of machinery, rather than to employ those who will not perform their work in a proper manner.

JOHN L. SHAWVER.

Tired Women

Should stop and consider the dangers which threaten them because of their weakness, languor and lack of ambition. Thousands of women find their strength unequal to the demands of duty. And yet there is no escape from the incessant round of care and toil. They must have strength. How shall it be given? By building up their systems through purified, enriched and vitalized blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla will give them strength because it will make their blood pure and enable it to feed the nerves upon their proper nourishment. It will give them strength because it will create an appetite, tone the stomach and invigorate every organ. Hood's Sarsaparilla is exactly what tired women need.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the Only True Blood Purifier

Prominently in the public eye to-day.

Hood's Pills easy to buy, easy to take, easy in effect. 25c.

Our Farm.

CHATS WITH INQUIRERS.

TIME OF PLANTING POTATOES.—I am asked by Wm. R., New Hampshire, whether the tenth of June is early enough for planting White Elephant potatoes. It is not easy to give a definite answer. Indeed, I feel free to confess that I am at present quite at sea concerning the best time to plant late potatoes. With early varieties, I think we will not miss it if we plant as early as the season will permit. What we want, and must do, is to get the crop fully developed by the time that the usual summer drought, with its blight accompaniment, makes its appearance. I have never grown potatoes in a place where I did not consider it perfectly safe and preferable to plant the early potatoes early. As to late potatoes, I carefully consider all the climatic conditions and other environments. Where the summers are short and the potato crop needs the whole season for growth (as shown by the plants remaining green and growing until frost kills them), I would plant early, say a week ahead of the regular corn-planting season. This would be safe, also, in all localities where nothing is known as yet of the leaf-spot disease or early blight, and little is feared of the dry weather in midseason. Where we have to reckon with the two drawbacks mentioned, however, I would plant the late varieties as late as might be considered safe. The White Elephant, if I remember rightly (I have not grown it for quite a number of years), is a decidedly late sort. In my locality we could plant it the last week in June, and be sure to have it come to maturity (or to early grief on account of the blight). In localities with shorter seasons than ours (we can ripen full crops of tomatoes to perfection), the first week in June would be as late as I would wish to plant this variety, and the White Star and other sorts of the same season. If we can manage to have the plants keep in fair growing condition during the hot, dry season (they are more apt to do that when planted late than when planted early), and the tubers just ready to swell out when the late summer rains set in again, we will have our potatoes green and growing until frost comes. Then we are sure of a good crop. But on the whole, you see, it is according to circumstances.

CORN FOR FODDER.—The same correspondent asks what variety of sweet-corn gives the greatest yield of corn and fodder, and how much difference there is between it and the regular field corn. The chief difference is that if we have a ready demand for green corn at seventy-five cents to one dollar a hundred ears, we can make a good yielding variety like Stowell's Evergreen pay us much better if we raise the ears for sale and the stalks for fodder, than if we grow ordinary field corn for its ordinary purposes. I invariably raise a good parcel of Stowell's Evergreen every year, and find both the ears and the stalks useful and profitable. The nubbins are left on, and are cut up and fed out with the stalks. This makes a rich and milk-producing food. But if I wanted the greatest amount of fodder, irrespective of the amount that might be realized by the sale of corn or roasting-ears, I think I would plant one or the other of the tall varieties of the dent corn. Some of our readers may remember the southern white corn, Blount's Prolific, which was so much written and talked about some ten or twelve years ago. The amount of stalk that this will produce is simply immense; and it sets any amount of nubbins, too.

MANURING THE GARDEN.—I have often called attention to the great value of poultry manure as a garden fertilizer. One reader at Pittsburgh, Pa., says his garden, about forty by one hundred feet, has for three years been manured moderately with hen and house manure and some wood ashes. Now he has the droppings of one hundred hens, well mixed with soft-coal ashes and leaves. I do not think I would look much further for manures, under such circumstances. Stiff soils may need the loosening effect of heavy applications of coarse materials which supply fiber and bulk—decaying vegetable matter. On garden soil I have never found anything giving more generally satisfactory results than poultry droppings. The manure from one hundred fowls, if well kept, should be more than sufficient to make even a poor spot of ground of the size mentioned immensely productive. I have often made

heavy applications, and often laughed at the idea that one hundred fowls furnish manure enough for five acres (I would call this a pretty weak application). But when it comes to putting this quantity on one tenth of an acre, there can be no question but that the application is heavy enough to force the most luxurious growth of any crop we might plant. Of course, such a dressing would not be safe to apply in lumps or chunks. It must be thoroughly mixed with the soil, and if not, some of the plant roots with which it comes in direct contact may get burned. There are a few crops for which a manuring of this kind may be far too strong, among them especially tomatoes and some bush beans. These plants will make an immense amount of foliage under this treatment, but may set very little fruit. In consideration of the luxuriant growth of leaf and stalk, we must always give our crops on land thus manured plenty of space. Lettuce and cabbage and many other vegetables thus forced into quick growth are especially brittle and succulent. Our friend fears that the application of hen manure in such doses might "produce" worms on cabbages and turnips, and the black bug on squashes. I find that plants which make a strong and vigorous growth when favored by plenty of plant-foods and good weather, will often withstand and outgrow the attacks of the various worms and bugs, while the imperfectly nourished plants succumb.

TRANSPLANTING BEETS.—"Can beets be transplanted the same as onions?" This is a question propounded by H. B., Illinois. Of course they can. Indeed, it is a good way to get some very early beets for table use. Sow some seed in a box (flat), or in the hotbed or greenhouse, a few weeks before you can expect to have the ground in order for planting, and then set them out at the proper season in open ground. The rows may be a foot apart, and the plants set about four inches apart in the row.

In raising mangels and sugar-beets for stock, I also resort to transplanting when I find vacancies in the rows. To fill them out, I take plants that are still small, and select a time when the soil is a little moist and otherwise in good order for setting plants. Usually, I twist off a part of the tops of the plants just before they are planted.

RETAIL PRICES OF VEGETABLES.—The general scale of prices for our vegetable products is now as low as it should be. The gardener, it seems to me, is entitled to all that he can get out of his business. I do not believe in cutting prices any more than is absolutely necessary to effect a sale, and in many cases I would rather keep a lot of stuff on hand unsold, to be given to domestic animals, than to sell it at an unprofitable price, and thereby demoralize the market for the present and perhaps the future. A reader wants me to tell him the usual prices of green vegetables by the mess. Such information cannot be given. Prices are all the time changing. They may be high in one market, while the same kind of produce goes begging in another not many miles away. Then, one day prices may be good, and extremely poor the next. When my boys go to market, I can never tell them at what figures they should hold their products. They will soon find out, after they get to market, what things sell for. My instructions are to try to get the best prices that the market affords, but not to sell any good product below a certain figure, especially when the products are of a kind that can be held and the prospects are for better success in selling at another time. "Get all you can" is a good rule. T. GREINER.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

ARSENICAL POISONS FOR THE CURRANT-WORM.

A correspondent in Massachusetts writes that he thinks I am rather reckless in venturing to recommend the use of Paris green as a remedy for the currant-worm, and thinks hellebore a safer remedy. And it is true that many persons are too careless in the use of such poisons; rather than speak slightly of the poisonous qualities of such substances, we should insist on greater care in their use, but in order to use them to the best advantage we should understand their nature more perfectly. The mixtures of Paris green that are used on the foliage of plants must be very weak, or they will destroy the leaves.

In my experience, white hellebore, when of good quality and used according to

directions, has always been a satisfactory remedy for the currant-worm, but in many locations it is difficult to get it of good quality; and on this account some growers of currants have resorted to weak mixtures of London purple and Paris green, which give them excellent results, and in no way endanger the consumers of the fruit. If the berries were sprayed just before ripening with a mixture of one pound Paris green to 100 gallons of water, and eaten at once on becoming dry, no injury would result to the consumer, for one would have to eat several hundred pounds of currants so treated at one time in order to get a poisonous dose.

In practice, however, the poison is washed off the fruit by rains, or blown off by the wind before being gathered; very little of it, anyway, adheres to the fruit. If the worms appear and the Paris green is applied very early, as is generally the case, fruit will be washed by rain many times before it is ripe. If they appear after the crop is gathered, the poison can certainly do no harm. The only time when there could be any danger from using these poisons is just as the crop is ripening. In such cases the crop should be gathered before applying the poison; or if applied earlier, be washed after being gathered.

From much experience in using both arsenic poisons and hellebore to prevent the work of currant-worms, I am led to believe that there is as much danger from hellebore as from arsenic poisoning in such cases; and then there is no danger from the use of either one, if ordinary intelligence is used. I think, when we have studied this matter more carefully, we will find that as in the case of using Paris green for the cabbage-worm, there is very little danger from its use for currants. In some experiments made by Prof. Gillette, of the Colorado experiment station, he found that when Paris green is dusted from a bag in the proportion of one ounce of the poison to one hundred ounces of flour, and just enough applied to each head to make a slight show of dust on the leaves, which was sufficient to kill the worms, that a person would have to eat twenty-eight heads of cabbage, outside leaves and all, at one meal in order to consume a poisonous dose of arsenic. This makes one's fear of poisoning from such a source seem very ridiculous.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Perfect-flowering Strawberries.—M. B. S., Hillsboro county, N. H. I think you will find that Beder Wood, Captain Jack and Parker Earle are three of the best perfect-flowering strawberries. The latter ripens very late, and needs extra care.

Planting Norway Spruce.—J. U. M., Williamsville, N. Y. You cannot make the soil too deep nor hardly too rich for Norway spruce. If the land is poor or hard where you wish to plant, and you can afford the expense, it would be a good plan to trench the soil to the depth of three feet, and if much sand is found, to replace it with rotten sod. Norway spruce will grow even in rather poor soil, but can only do its best where its roots are in rich, moist soil.

Grafting Roses.—M. E. B., Cumberland, Md. Roses are grafted in much the same manner as apples, but the scion and stock are not generally split, since the wood has large pith that makes it too weak to stand this treatment; so instead, each is cut slanting, as in whip-grafting, and the edges simply laid together and bound and waxed. You will probably have your better success by budding them.

Grafting Grapes.—K. O., Kantner, Pa. Grapes should be grafted early in the spring before the sap starts, even before the frost is out of the ground. If grafted when the sap runs freely, the scions are liable to be drowned out. If the scions are cut and kept from starting until after the vines are in leaf, and then the grafting is done, it is often successful. The union should be below the surface of the ground and covered with earth after being waxed. The cleft-graft is the form used, but instead of making the cleft with a knife, it is generally necessary to make it with a fine saw, on account of the crooked grain of the wood.

Plum Culture.—A. M. B., Viking, Wis. The plums you have will be greatly benefited by having the sod broken up around them. They should then be heavily manured with any good manure; stable manure is especially good, since it also acts as a mulch. The land should be kept constantly loose and mellow. If treated in this way, you will be surprised at the results. The trees will withstand the drought best when thus treated. All dead wood should be removed, and the weak wood removed or shortened. I think that beside doing this you had better get a few of the improved native sorts, such as De Soto, Forest Garden and Wolf, which are a great improvement over the wild kinds and are just as hardy.

Plum-blight.—L. R. D., Windham, Iowa. I am not certain that I know what you mean by the plum blossoms blighting. The blossoms may fall off from not being properly pollenized. In the case of trees situated on lowland, the flowers are frequently injured by frost, and sometimes the fruit forms into what are called plum-pockets, or plum-bladders. If you will describe the trouble more definitely, I think I can help you in relieving it.

Fertilizer for Vineyard.—B. A. M., Jumper, Okla. Undoubtedly the best accessible fertilizer for your vineyard, if it need fertilizing at all, is unleached hard-wood ashes, yet good barn-yard manure is all right. But do not manure your vineyard if the vines are making a fair growth. It is an easy matter to apply too much of animal manures to grape-vines, and when this is the case, a large growth of cane and a small proportional amount of fruit is the result. On strong land very little manure is needed.

Rye in Orchards.—J. H. M., Morgan county, W. Va. Rye is a very hard crop on an orchard, since it is a great feeder and does not permit the land to be cultivated. I think your best plan will be to cut the rye early for hay or green forage, and then plow in the stubbles at once, and cultivate thoroughly in some garden crop, corn or potatoes. But if this is done, some manure should be applied. You cannot afford to starve your peach-trees, for if well cared for, they will pay you better than any other crop. Keep the soil in the orchard loose and mellow by growing some such crops as those mentioned.

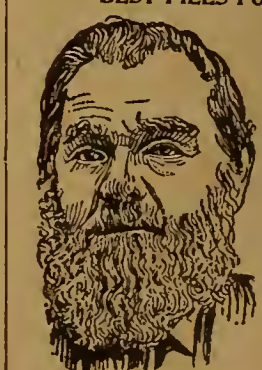
Bleeding Vines.—A. R., Seneca Falls, N. Y. There is undoubtedly more sap lost to the vine when a cane is cut off, and the wound bleeds, than would have been lost had the cane not been cut, since the sap is often under considerable pressure in the vine in the spring. In some experiments made with grape-vines at Amherst, Mass., it appeared that there was little, if any, injury done by their bleeding when pruned in the spring. However, it is a practice that should be discouraged. I am convinced it may frequently cause the canes to die back, and in the case of many other of our fruit plants, is very injurious.

Coal Ashes—Chestnuts.—E. L., Clifton, Ill. Coal ashes contain little, if any, plant-food; but while it may not feed the plant, yet on heavy, black loam it makes the soil more loose and porous, and hence in better condition for the roots of plants. When put around peach-trees, they seem to be distasteful to the moth of the borer, and so helpful in preventing the work of the borers.—In central and north central Iowa there are sections where the soil is well drained that chestnut-trees are doing fairly well, and I think they will do as well in similar sections in Illinois. Trees five to six feet high should produce nuts in five or six years, if they do well. It is a good plan to have several trees together, but each tree bears both kinds of flowers. It is also very desirable to get trees from northern-grown nuts, as they will prove hardier than those from southern localities.

AFTER DINNER

when you have eaten heartily, you should take one only of Doctor Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. Your stomach and liver need the gentle stimulating, as well as invigorating, effect of these tiny, sugar-coated granules. If you feel drowsy, dull, languid, inexpressibly tired or debilitated; if you've no appetite and frequent headaches or dizziness, a furrowed or coated tongue—it proves that you're bilious. In that case you should use the "Pellets." They are anti-bilious granules, which act in a prompt and natural way, without griping.

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LIVER PILLS.

Mr. SAMUEL BAKER, SR., of No. 161 Summit Avenue, Philadelphia, N. J., writes: "There is nothing that can compare with Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, as Liver Pills. They have done more good than any other medicine I have ever taken."



MR. S. BAKER, SR.

Our Farm.

FIVE CROPS OF POTATOES FROM ONE PLANTING.

FIVE years ago I purchased a section of public school land near the city of Houston, Texas, and cultivated twenty acres in corn, oats, potatoes, beans, peas and garden truck, for a spring crop.

Our fall crop is generally put in about the first of August, ground and weather permitting. But as I engaged in the hay business later in the season, at or a little before the time when I would have put in my fall crop, I allowed a portion of the potatoes to remain in the ground. The tops died down, and the tubers remained in the rows until the early fall rains set in, when they sprouted and grew, and made a crop; and when the frost came late in November, the tops died down again, and the tubers remained dormant in the rows as before until spring, when they came forth again, and grew and made a crop of early potatoes. The tops died down again, and in September made their appearance again above ground, and gave a fall crop, and so continued until I rented the place, after the potatoes had made the fifth crop from the original planting. The last crop had a large percentage of tubers as large as a hen's egg, and larger.

We never have potatoes to freeze in the ground here, if left from fall till spring. The winter just past has been the hardest known since Texas was a part of Mexico. However, we anticipate a good fruit year as the result of the cold winter.

Texas. EZRA A. JOHNSON.

LARGE STRAWBERRIES.

Mr. E. C. Davis, Massachusetts, grew ten strawberries which weighed one pound and nine ounces, being the largest berries grown from any variety on authentic



record. They were grown from the Timbrell variety, and secured the prize of one hundred dollars in gold from the E. W. Reid's nurseries, Bridgeport, Ohio, who introduced this valuable new berry.

THAYER'S BERRY BULLETIN.

Frequent cultivation stimulates an early, vigorous growth. The roots strike deep into the mellow soil, and the ordinary drought is harmless.

Remove the winter mulch from strawberries. Cultivate between the rows. Stir the ground around each plant, replace the mulch, and large berries and lots of them may be expected.

Cultivated berries are less liable to injury by frost or drought.

Most fruit gardens are deficient in potash. An application of wood ashes will supply this want, and is especially valuable for light, sandy soils.

In pruning the raspberry and blackberry, cut off the long, slender laterals, forming an even, well-rounded bush. Remove all small, weak canes from the hill.

Severe pruning of laterals will not only improve size and quality of fruit, but greatly increase the yield.

If any plants newly set fail to live, put others in their places at once.

This is especially necessary in the bush fruits which are to remain several years.

Currant and gooseberry bushes are often injured by the borer. The egg is laid about June 1st. When hatched, the young borer works its way into the cane and remains until the following spring, eating out the pith and causing death of cane.

As soon as the leaves start, the affected parts are easily discovered, and should be cut out and burned at once.

Picking, packing and marketing are important factors in selling berries.

For family use, leave fruit on the vines until fully ripe, and pick fresh for the table.

For market, pick every day before too ripe.

Never allow stems, leaves, dirt or imperfect berries in the box.

Always have a uniform quality, and the box well filled.

If you would have a good market, offer only good berries, give good measure and always deal honestly with your customers.

Remember, it costs no more to raise good berries; it costs no more to pick and deliver good berries. Freight and express charges are just the same, and when sold, good berries always go first and bring highest prices.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM COLORADO.—Farming under irrigation for eighteen years proves to me that it is a grand success. Immense crops of hay, grain and potatoes are raised here, and the cultivation of fruit is a paying business. I believe there is no state better adapted to dairying than Colorado. W. R. T.

Loveland, Col.

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.—The Piedmont region of South Carolina has a very fine climate and pure water. Society is excellent and churches and schools abound. Cotton and all the cereals are raised here. Hay and other forage crops receive a good deal of attention. This is also a good locality for truck and dairy farming. There are several large cotton factories in this section, and our people find ready sale for all the products of the farm and garden. I will add that most all kinds of fruits and vegetables can be grown here. Good substantial home-seekers from the North and West are most cordially welcomed.

Pelzer, S. C.

B. F. McD.

FROM OREGON.—Camas Valley is one of the best places in southern Oregon. The winters are warm and showery; the summers are cool and pleasant, with a cool breeze from the ocean and surrounding evergreen mountains. All kinds of vegetables and all kinds of small grain do well here. This place, like all others, has some drawbacks. Our market is poor at the present time, but before a great while the Roseburg and Coosbay railroad will be completed, and that will give us a better market for what we have to sell. There is still some government land here that would make good homes. C. W.

Camas Valley, Oregon.

FROM NEBRASKA.—Hitchcock county is in the southwestern part of the state, and is crossed from west to east by the Republican and Frenchman rivers. The country is a rolling prairie. The soil is a black, sandy loam. The bottom land along the creeks is covered with the grama-grass, which makes the best of hay. The divides are covered with buffalo-grass that grows about four inches high, and makes excellent pasture. Land is worth from \$3 to \$25 per acre, and will raise good crops when we have plenty of rainfall. It has been too dry here to produce a crop for the last two years, and it will be hard for the farmers to put out a crop this year. E. S.

Culbertson, Neb.

FROM MISSOURI.—Clinton county is the garden spot of Missouri. We have a population of over 16,000. This county is adapted to various products—corn, wheat, oats, clover, apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries and strawberries, and sweet and Irish potatoes. Wages for farm-hands are \$18 to \$20 per month. Water is good and plentiful. Land ranges in price, according to improvements, from \$25 to \$60 per acre. This is a fine country, and any one who is industrious can make a good living here. We have a fine climate, and many other things to be thankful for. We invite all men of enterprise. We want more capital, more practical farmers, more fruit and poultry raisers to come to this country. Our schools are good. The teachers get from \$40 to \$60 per month. S. B. E.

Grayson, Mo.

FROM WASHINGTON.—Goldendale is one of the oldest towns in the state. Its growth is slow and steady. Where I live, twenty miles southeast of Goldendale, is one of the finest fruit countries in existence. We are 1,000 feet above the Columbia river, which is immediately south of us. Its valley, with several canons 200 to 300 feet deep, affords places for the cold air to flow in, keeping our day and night temperature more even. To the north, the Columbia Hills, 3,000 to 4,000 feet high, shelter us. The soil is light and friable, being very easily worked. The most remarkable feature about it is that it will retain the winter moisture so extraordinarily well that there is no difference in the size of fruit from irrigated and non-irrigated trees, where the latter are properly cultivated. The largest apple at the world's fair was raised on this same "southern slope" in this county, although it was sent by way of The Dalles, Oregon, that being their shipping point, and also the residence of a world's fair commissioner, and Oregon got the credit. Plums, prunes, apricots, peaches, apples, pears, grapes and small fruits all do remarkably well; so do all kinds of vegetables. Our large wheat farms are being divided into smaller fruit farms. R. S.

Goldendale, Wash.

FROM TEXAS.—In April 1st issue a correspondent at Hayes, Texas, said he had lived in Texas three years, and by using northern methods he raised thirty bushels of good corn per acre, while his neighbors raised only ten bushels of rubbings per acre, yet would not acknowledge his methods superior to theirs. During my residence in Texas, for nearly eleven years, I have known many Texas-born farmers to raise forty bushels of corn per acre, sixty bushels of oats, and one bale of cotton. I must admit, however, that Texas has a class of ten-bushels-of-rubbings farmers, but it is made up of men from nearly every state in the Union. They do most of their farming on the bank of the creek with a fishing-pole, or in the woods with a gun. A. H. says, "In a nutshell, I can take a common Texas cow (buy her from one of the old settlers) giving one half of a gallon of thin milk at time of purchase, and by the same methods I give Texas land, I can bring her to five gallons of milk per day. Then sell her back to her former owner, and in thirty days she will be back to one half gallon per day. It takes too much time to milk five gallons, so they say. Everything here is carried on the same as the cow business. Let northern men come here with their energy and methods, and this will be the best country on earth. This country could be made a paradise if in the hands of a progressive race." Now, every well-informed person knows the average Texas cow is a beef producer, and we who live in Texas know that some long-horned Texas cows can be made to give a good yield of milk, but it is certainly not true that they can, as a rule, be made to give five gallons of milk per day. If they could, you would not find our Texas farmers (old settlers and new) investing their money in Jersey cattle, as they are. We have farmers in Texas who make their land yield them one hundred dollars per acre in early vegetables and fruits. A great many of these men are from the North, but the majority are either Texans or from other southern states. Texas, in spite of all her shiftlessness, exports thousands of ears of berries, peaches, pears, vegetables, melons, beets and hogs annually. The farmers of this county (nine tenths southern) are organized for the purpose of securing special rates from the railroads for the transfer of their produce, and in order that, during melon and vegetable season they may be posted, and not glut one market while another is bare. The people of Texas are progressive and energetic. Texas needs good men from the North, East and West, for she is a new state and has a vast unimproved territory. But, friends from the North, don't come to Texas with the idea in your head that every Texan is wholly destitute of energy and thrift, and that you can lead the community in progressiveness, or you will find you are very much mistaken. Texans are always glad to try the methods introduced by new-comers from any part of the globe, but my observation is that the new-comer in a year or two adopts about nine tenths of his neighbors' ways, while they perhaps adopt one tenth of his methods. Hempstead, Texas. L. L. R.

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WHAT WE SAY WE DO WE DO DO

The things we forget!

What untold mischief these do cause us all!

Perhaps you have a half-formed notion of buying a binder, reaper or mower—and it's not a McCormick.

You decide upon a machine which, you remember, showed up very favorably in a draft test—but you forget what sort of a "test" it was.

You remember the agent said his machine "is just as good as the McCormick."

You remember the McCormick is a little higher in price—

But you forget that the

McGORMICK

was on hand ready to meet any and all competition in the World's Fair field tests—tests in which all American machines were urged to take part.

You forget that the machine you think of buying did not obtain its draft figures in these tests with the McCormick—in the same field and under the same conditions.

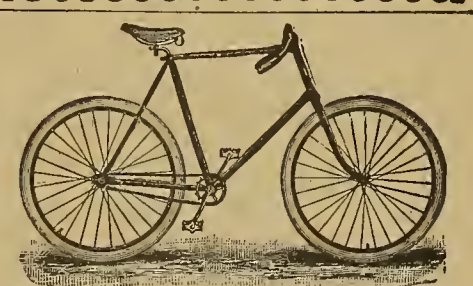
You forget that the McCormick is higher priced only because of its higher quality.

Write the McCormick Harvesting Machine Co., Chicago, or call on their local agent.

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STAHL'S
Ecolesior Spraying Outfits kill insects, prevent leaf blight and wormy fruit. Insure a heavy yield of all Fruit and Vegetable crops. Send 6 cts. for catalogue and full treatise on spraying. Circulars free. Address: WM. STAHL, Quincy, Ill.



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\$40 (No. 3, for BOYS, 24 in. Wheels, 21 lbs.
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Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammononton, New Jersey.

BETTER BUY BONES THAN GRAIN.

INSTEAD of buying bran, shorts or other grain food, the farmer who keeps a large number of fowls should seek to buy the bones (fresh bones) from butchers, and should have a bone-cutter to reduce these to a suitable condition for feeding. Meat or bone, at three cents per pound, is far cheaper than any kind of grain. The bones supply the albumen, lime and grit, and also lessen the liability of making the hens too fat. The droppings will be twice as valuable as before. If fresh bones cannot be obtained, then desiccated fish, which is cooked and the oil pressed out of it, or ground meat and bone, or steamed meat may be used. These articles seldom cost more than two cents per pound. A pound of meat and bone, or fish, may be allowed to sixteen hens once a day, or one ounce to each hen.

Grain is cheaper, apparently, but lean meat contains three times as much flesh-forming matter as grain, and many times more lime, as well as a fair proportion of carbonaceous matter, and lean meat should always be used. Meat being three times more valuable than wheat for producing eggs, it is much cheaper; and, in fact, as meat makes the hens lay, while wheat cannot be relied upon, it is really the cheapest of all foods. The food must conform to the demands of the hen for egg material. If a hen was allowed a whole bushel of grain a day, she could not eat enough of it to provide the lime for the shells, or the nitrogen for the white of the egg, and she would soon be too fat to lay at all.

A fair comparison between grain and meat will show that meat is really cheaper than grain, because it increases egg production. It also contains less waste. A hen kept on grain appropriates a large share of it to the storage of fat, which is not desirable, while lean meat is almost entirely nitrogenous. When farmers feed more meat and less grain, they will have larger profits from poultry. The introduction of the green-bone cutter also lessens the cost, as cheap bones and meat can be cut fine and fed without the necessity of cooking the meat. The farmer should not consider any kind of food expensive if it makes the hens lay. The most expensive food is that which produces no eggs.

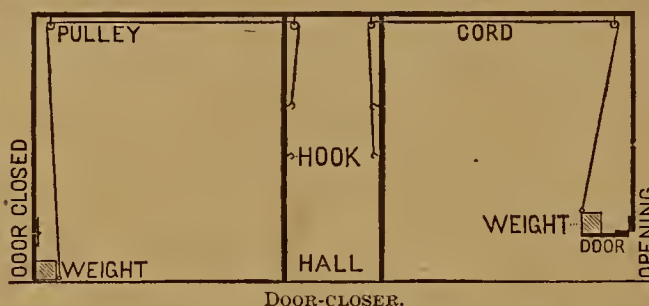
It is not to be inferred, however, that one must begin to cook and prepare feasts for large numbers. If farmers can be convinced that by feeding their hens on foods that will give all the advantages of table scraps, without so many of the attendant disadvantages, they can be encouraged to place the industry on the same plane with dairying. Less capital is required, and a smaller area of land is necessary for poultry than for cattle, while the profits are all the year round in the daily receipts of eggs. But to make such a business pay, the farmer must abandon the belief that a hen can subsist and give a profit on corn. He must also accept the fact that poultry raising is not a work for women. There is too much work (hard work), cleaning the houses and grounds, feeding, watering, repairing, dressing and shipping to market, for a woman to do, unaided.

The zigzag lines of awkward and room-taking snake rail fences, the broken, blood-spattered remnants of barb and other barb-arities, the bushy, ragged stretches of isolated untended hedges, the ghastly ruins of straight rail and board fences are rapidly disappearing—becoming an effete relic of a past age. No improvement in the line of agriculture has ever met with so universal an approval and so general an acceptance, as bar steel woven wire for fencing. One of the most popular makes of this kind of fencing is the "Page," which possesses a "Coiled Spring" feature that meets with general acceptance wherever introduced. Judging from the immense yearly increase of sales of the Page fence, it seems conclusive that the combination of spring and woven wire fills the bill, and settles all the difficulties in farm fencing. For additional particulars address Page Woven Wire Fence Co., Adrian, Mich., and mention Farm and Fireside.

The agents who will go to work at once will reap an early harvest. Write to the publishers of this paper for terms and full particulars.

MANAGING THE INCUBATOR.

By observing the sitting hen one can learn what to do with an incubator. Persons who place eggs under a hen do not go to the poultry-house every two or three hours and pull the hen off her nest, in order to examine the eggs, yet they will open the egg-drawer of the incubator, and expose the eggs to the cool air and to constant changes of temperature, several times during the day. When the eggs are pipped under a hen, she will not leave her nest, for fear of exposing the newly hatched chicks to cold air, yet during the hatching of chicks in an incubator (just at the very period when they are coming out), the incubator is opened to satisfy the curiosity of every inquiring visitor who so requests, and as the chicks are then more or less wet, the evaporation of the moisture causes them to be chilled, from which they never fully recover, while the chicks in the eggs that are pipped, being weaker than the others, are subjected to a change of temperature of twenty degrees or more, and die in the shells. Although many incubator manufacturers place great importance on plenty of moisture, it is doubtful if the moisture theory is correct at all. A hen will bring off a full brood on the top of the hay in the barn-loft, and yet not a drop of moisture will have reached the eggs. In our own experiments we have secured strong chicks, yet no moisture was used until the eggs were pipped,



and then only a few wet sponges were placed in the egg-drawer. This is feasible, however, only when there are no currents of warm, dry air flowing in. We prefer to avoid currents of air in an incubator, as the hen does not allow them in the nest.

DOOR-CLOSER.

To easily open the small door which gives egress and ingress, without being compelled to go into the pens, is to save labor, especially if it can be done from the hall or passageway. The illustration explains itself. A heavy weight closes the opening, and is lifted up by a cord running over small pulleys, fastened from the hall. The contrivance is designed by Mr. S. S. Barrie, New Jersey. It keeps the fowls in at night, and keeps mice and other depredators out.

THE SPECIAL-PURPOSE FOWL.

Feed may be given liberally without filling the egg-basket. The effects of the food depend upon its kind. The profit depends more upon the kind than upon the quantity. At certain seasons of the year nature provides wild birds with a great variety of food. They have the privilege of selection. Some birds live entirely upon animal food, but the birds which lay the greatest number of eggs are those which subsist on seeds and plants, as well as upon insects.

One fact which should not be overlooked by the poultry-keeper is that no birds in their natural condition will lay and hatch in winter, excepting a few varieties that frequent the arctic regions. Even the wild turkey, which raises a large brood, performs that duty in a brief space of time, and then ceases from egg production. The same may be said of a jungle-fowl, from which it is claimed that the domestic kinds descended, although it is favored with a mild climate, being a native of India. Domestication changed the conditions of reproduction, so far as climate, food and advantages are concerned, but the natural laws cannot be disregarded.

The birds known by us as Leghorns, Brahmas, Plymouth Rocks, etc., are really monstrosities compared with their ancestors. Although man cannot himself make a living creature, yet nothing is plainer than the fact of his ability to make alterations and changes to suit his convenience. He divides the cattle into beef, milk or butter breeds, and marks each variety with color, form and size. He places fine wool on the back of one sheep and covers the frame of another with choice meat. He makes the horse of massive frame, with power to draw heavy

loads, or gives him fleetness of foot, with endurance and activity in every muscle. His handiwork with birds is even more marked, as is shown in pigeons and our many breeds of domestic fowls. Nature gives him full power to improve, opposing him only when he attempts to destroy, as by introducing hybrids. No breed possesses all the desirable characteristics, yet each breed excels in some particular respect. Determine for what purpose you desire poultry, and then endeavor to select the breed which comes nearest to your requirements.

MAKE THE TURKEYS PAY.

Turkeys receive but very little attention from farmers after they have passed the critical stage. This is a mistake; to get the most money out of a turkey it should be kept growing and pushed to an extreme weight. It is the weight that tells in a turkey, and the difference of three or four pounds is quite an item. In fact, where there is a large flock, the difference of a pound weight in each amounts to quite a sum. Turkeys secure a good portion of their feed at this season, owing to there being plenty of insects and worms, to say nothing of grass, seeds, etc.; but if given a good feed of a mixture of oats, corn and wheat when they come up to the house to roost at night, they will give good results in growth. About two weeks before marketing the turkeys, they should be fed all the corn, morning and night, that they will eat, and a mixed food should be furnished as well. The better plan is to first keep them growing, so as to secure the size and frame upon which to place the meat at the proper time. At times insect food in the fields is scarce, and in that case a mess of chopped meat, once or twice a week, will be of advantage. A cross of Bronze with the common kinds gives quite an advantage in growth and weight.

A little milk in a shallow vessel, say a saucer, is beneficial at all times; and when it is warm enough weather to cause the milk to thicken, our chicks and turkeys may as well fare upon "Dutch cheese." For the benefit of those who do not understand this term, we would say it is clabbered milk, scalded sufficiently for the curd to separate from the whey, when it is strained through a coarse cloth. This dry curd can be mixed with the egg or with oatmeal, or fed alone. In either case it makes an excellent and nutritious article of diet. In case this is not at hand, oatmeal can be mixed with the boiled egg, or dampened with milk or water, and fed alone. In case milk is used, only enough should be mixed at once to keep sweet, as it will sour very quickly. When the chicks are two or three weeks old, wheat screenings and cracked corn may constitute their evening meal.

Elgin, Ill.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Artichokes for Poultry.—J. J., San Francisco, Cal., writes: "I find artichokes excellent for hogs, and would like to know if they could not also be utilized for poultry, either raw or cooked."

REPLY:—If chopped fine, the hens will sometimes eat them raw, but if cooked, and thickened with ground grain, they will answer the same purpose as potatoes or turnips.

Hens Eating Eggs.—Mrs. W. E., South Fallsburg, N. Y., writes: "How can I prevent hens from eating eggs?"

REPLY:—It is a habit learned by eating a broken egg. Make nests of a box open at one end, and only large enough for the hen to go on, the nest to be raised about a foot off the floor. By this arrangement the hens cannot readily get at the eggs to eat them. Endeavor to collect eggs as soon as the hens lay, which may be known by their cackling.

Preserving Eggs.—M. G., Clinton, Pa., writes: "Which is the best method for packing and preserving eggs?"

REPLY:—They may be packed in perfectly dry oats or chaff. The best way to keep eggs is to place them on racks, in a cool place (the cooler the better), and turn them twice a week. Use only eggs from hens not with males, as they will keep three times as long as fertile eggs. This method is better than packing them in dry substances or solutions.

Hens Pulling Feathers.—N. B., West, W. Va., writes: "My hens pull feathers from each other, their necks and breasts being bare. Please give a remedy."

REPLY:—It is considered almost useless to attempt to prevent feather pulling, as the fowls must be separated, no two of them together. It comes from idleness and lack of exercise, and the hens will not lay when addicted to the vice. The best remedy is to dispose of them and procure others.

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Our Fireside.

THE MEDDER-LARK.

See the yaller-throated cherub,
Flittin' free as feathery foam,
From the tallest, rankest grasses,
From his flowery, bowery home;
See him pick the tallest fence-post,
Hear that melody of June—
That's the medder-lark a-singin',
An' his soul is in his tune.

See him give his wings a flicker,
See him flit his tail an' nod.
Now he's listenin' an' lookin'
To'ards the regions of his God.
That's a-uther bird a-comin',
Hear him twitter out his life—
That's the medder-lark a-sparkin',
An' his sweetheart is his wife.

He's not edzackly purty,
An' his clo'es is kinder tame;
He don't make much preteusions,
But he gits thar jist the same.
Tho' he sings an' flirts an' twitters
Till he's fairly in distress,
You kin see his body's lustin'
With the things he can't express.

The medder-lark's an orator,
Without a touch of art;
The medder-lark's a poet, an'
He's got his lines by heart;
The medder-lark's a prophet,
With a message to transmit—
He's a songster an' a psalmist,
An' his music can't be writ.

He's a angel dressed in feathers,
He's a animated kiss,
If I could love one hope fulfilled,
My idee would be this:
Don't give us fame nor riches—
Don't give us anything,
But jist some friends an' medder-larks
An' never-endin' spring.

—Dan De Foe, in "Sports Afield."

MINY'S VOYAGE.

BY GRETA BRYAR.

I BELIEVE I'll take Miny with me this voyage, wife."

It was early in the morning, and Captain and Mrs. Starbuck were in the kitchen together.

When the Starbuck twins were getting well of the whooping-cough they used to wake up of mornings with a half-starved feeling. Doctor Rice said it was a good symptom, and told their mother to let them have anything they wanted. So they got into the habit of making what ordinarily would have been their one-o'clock dinner, their first meal of the day, and the only one they relished.

It changed the regular routine of household duty, and the domestics grumbled about it; but Mrs. Starbuck herself always helped about breakfast. She was down-stairs by the time Mary Ann had the fire a-going, and when her husband was at home, he was never many steps behind her. This morning he was late, and Mrs. Starbuck was wondering what had become of him, when he approached her with this greeting. Coming so unexpectedly, it nettled her.

"I believe you think more of Miny this minute, Captain Starbuck, than you do of your own children," she exclaimed, regardless to the sound of her words.

"Supposing I should turn about and accuse you of thinking more of the boys than you do of me, because you won't get ready and go down to St. Domingo this trip?" he asked, half playfully.

"Captain Starbuck!"

This exclamation disclosed more than Mrs. Starbuck could have put into words, and her husband understood it so.

"Yes, wife," he continued, "I'm going down to St. Domingo, the first port the Starbuck twins, senior, ever set sail for in a craft of their own, and the last one, too, as you might say," he added, turning toward the window. "For Si was sailing his own vessel, and no mistake, that last trip of his."

Mrs. Starbuck was loath to call up that reminiscence. It was liable to overcome the captain, and make him lose control of himself altogether. She didn't want the Starbuck twins, junior, to see their father under the influence of the memory.

"I'd like nothing better than to go to sea with you all my life," she assured him, crossing over to where he stood, "only I don't want the boys to get to liking the water. That's why I keep them away from their Grandfather Allen's. I don't want them around the shipping."

"And they're crazy to go," returned the captain, remembering the incident which had influenced him to come down-stairs and tell his wife what he had.

"Miny'll be company for you," suggested Mrs. Starbuck. "But I should think the place would have a horror for her, too."

He had not thought of that. His mind had been working in an altogether different groove, and it was not until his wife showed her resentment in the way she sometimes did, when the relation between his brother's child and his children were placed side by side, that he really comprehended all this project involved, either for himself or for Miny.

"But I must," he said to himself, as he told

his wife that he did not want his boys to be seafaring men, and after the West India contract had run out, he believed he would quit the sea altogether, and stay at home and look out for the twins. A statement that would have persuaded Mrs. Starbuck to consent to almost anything.

But the plan was borne in upon him the more he considered the one the boys had afoot. And how fortunate that he should have observed the evening before that the twins had a new idea of some sort. As they could get just double the result out of any idea, their father being a twin himself knew how, pretty well, to "twig" their movements, as he said.

It was when he was standing all ready to close the door behind him that morning and go down-stairs, that he heard Harold ask Horace a question that concerned Miny, and he stopped to listen to the answer. Then he went back into the room and sat down, and heard what else they said. The twins had been stirring about in their room when he heard Mary Ann leave her's, but their mother did not seem to notice it.

The captain soon found out that the day before they had sent Miny down to Doctor Rice's to borrow Lyman Rice's book of instruction on boys' games. Lyman was sick with the measles. The twins didn't care about the book. What they wanted was that Miny, besides fetching the book, should fetch the measles, so when she began to show symptoms of the disease, they could go down to their Grandfather Allen's—it was so exciting down there. And they could run about the wharves as much as they liked then.

"It's nothing wrong," said Harold, trying to persuade his brother to think as he did. For Horace was not sure that they had acted just right in the matter.

"Mama doesn't want us to have things same as other young folks do. We were most grown up 'fore we even had whooping-cough. And for all we changed our dinner to breakfast, we haven't been sent to grandpa's to break us of the habit."

"It sounds wrong," returned Horace, his thought being for Miny, instead of for their own concern.

"Measles won't kill anybody," assured his brother. "And how'd we ever get to Grandpa Allen's, if we didn't contrive some way of our own. We want to go down while Nate Cowdry's there, too. And he's going home in a little while, you know."

"How soon'll Miny be took with 'em?" asked Horace.

"Lemme see," considered the overwise Harold; "to-day's Tuesday, next Tuesday'll be seven, Wednesday eight, Thursday nine; somewhere 'bout a week from next Thursday."

"How can you tell?" Horace asked.

"Cause it takes nine days or so for anything you catch to begin to make you sick. Grandma Allen said so."

"I shouldn't want Miny to be very sick," persisted Horace, who at the beginning demurred over making a cat's-paw of their girl cousin. Like their mother, she was always ready to do anything she was asked.

"She's got the measles now, anyway," argued Harold, and the only thing to do is to let her have 'em. The minute her symptoms begin, mama'll send for Dr. Rice, and he'll say, 'Let the boys go down to their grandfather's. Healthiest place in the world, down there by the ocean,' so we want to be ready."

It was a clever scheme, but the captain went down-stairs with a cleverer one all ready to put into action.

"A love for the sea is born in every Starbuck's bones," he soliloquized, as he stood looking out of the window after his wife went about getting breakfast. "Maybe the boys'll get over it, though, if they never know what it is that makes them so uneasy. But it's hankering for the sea, and nothing else, that set them out upon this. Si and I used to be up to the same tricks. Do anything to get where there's a craft. And then the swish of the water begins to coax you, and you can no more get away from that enticing sound than you can leave the table when you're hungry. It'll keep at it till you're off tossing about on it, and lured into all sorts of danger, same's poor Si was. Parents ought to watch their children, and when these inclinations begin to show themselves, take that energy and show it where to go, same's they put up wires for electricity to travel through. If that wasn't done, the current'd be running helter-skelter, same's most folks are—no object in life anywhere. Poor little Miny," he exclaimed, as all three—Miny, Harold and Horace—came running down-stairs one after another.

"Breakfast's ready, Captain Starbuck," Mary Ann somewhat rudely interrupted.

"Won't it be nice when papa's home to breakfast every morning?" asked Mr. Starbuck, "same's he's going to be after one or two more trips." And that opened the way to tell about the trip he was all ready for.

"Mine go off to sea, and we stay at home!" cried Harold. "Can't even go to Grandpa Allen's; that's mean." But he did not say enough to betray or implicate himself.

Horace was solicitous of Miny's welfare. He wanted to know what would happen if she was taken sick on the voyage.

"Oh, the mate's wife'll take care of her," said their father. "Her little girl was just getting over the measles last trip; but Sallie didn't have any trouble, nor Miny won't, either."

The twins looked at each other.

"Besides," added the captain, "I carry the best medicine-chest afloat."

"So you do," affirmed his wife, who always went to sea with her husband before the twins were born.

But Miny was not ill on the voyage, either going or coming. She and Sallie Lane, the first mate's daughter, were good comrades. They used to go on deck when the weather was fine, and they staid in their state-rooms by themselves much of the time. Miny told Sallie about her father, and it made her feel very sorry, both for Miny and for her uncle.

"And is an insurrection a bad thing?" Sallie would ask.

"Oh, terrible!" replied Miny, "just terrible! You don't know, Sallie."

"No," Sallie quietly agreed, conscious of being not only two or three years Miny's junior, but that she was a mate's, and not a captain's daughter, the same as Miny was.

"And your father had just begun to be a captain, too?" Sallie would meditate.

"Yes;" it always brought a sigh, but Miny would go all over the narrative again. She told it to Sallie several times before they reached St. Domingo.

"And they burned your father's vessel?" Sallie would say, trying to comprehend how such a thing were possible.

"Right before his eyes," Miny told her. "You see, it was this way"—she knew it so by heart. "My father and my uncle always went to sea together. They were twins, same as Harold and Horace. Papa used to be mate, same as your papa is; but after mama died—"

"Did your mama die when you were a little baby?" Sallie interrupted her to ask, the first time she heard Miny's story.

"Only two months old. I was born at sea."

Miny liked to have that last known, for she, too, inherited the Starbuck tendency for the sea.

"And then you were your uncle's little girl?" Sallie added, wanting to get the facts fixed in her own mind.

"Oh, yes! 'cause he's just like papa, you know. Uncle Simon said they'd never have any luck apart; sailors, you know, always talk about luck, but I don't suppose they believe in it." And Sallie always said she did not suppose they did, either. "Uncle Simon wanted papa to be captain, and let him be mate; but papa would rather have a vessel of his own—anybody would, you know," to which Sallie acquiesced, as she did to all Miny told her about her story.

"It cost a good deal of money to buy the vessel; it was Uncle Simon's money, too. For he and papa always had just the same amount of money; they never would make it any different."

"My!" exclaimed Miny. This part of the narrative was most impressive to her. For she was much younger, and more immature, allowing for the discrepancy in ages, than Miny. "They burned your papa's vessel, and then they took the men upon their shoulders and carried them through the streets? Oh, what wicked people! Where did they carry your papa?" she asked.

"We don't know."

And when they reached this point, they both arose, and putting their arms about each other's waists, would walk about the state-room, or go up on deck and find their papas; for Miny's uncle was, as she said, the same as a father.

Miny's story had to do with the insurrection which took place in Port au Prince several years ago, when the incensed blacks in their maddened frenzy offered harm to every white man who came in their way. Miny's father was not the only sea-captain who suffered loss during the dreadful uprising, for property was destroyed at a fearful sacrifice—property and life.

You may know how Captain Starbuck avoided all reference to the time or locality, when he had not told his wife where he was going until he made up his mind to take Miny with him. But she, consistent little woman that she was, fell in with the idea the moment she believed Miny could afford her husband any pleasure.

They couldn't have had more pleasant weather than they had that trip, the sailors all said, which was about three years after her father sailed for that port. The sailors laid it to the girls being aboard.

The commerce of the world seemed represented in the harbors of Hayti, and the island itself appeared as beautiful to the young girls from their lookout as it did to the Frenchmen in 1801, when Touissant made his last great struggle for it. They found everything as orderly as they had left it in their own quiet little town. A child could go about the streets of Port au Prince without risk, and Miny and Sallie were trusted to go with the second mate, who knew his way anywhere in the West Indies.

They were cautioned about keeping close together, and so the girls did, every step of the way. But while they were looking and remarking upon the architectural excellence of the palace of state, they lost sight of the mate, and were so interested in gazing about and seeing everything, that they forgot the importance of looking him up at once.

Miny always declared that they did not move from the spot where their companion stood with them, but he knew that the girls went around the corner of the palace. He followed them, but they were nowhere in

sight, and where or how they disappeared he was never able to find out.

"Never mind," said Sallie, when they had waited what seemed an age to their frightened hearts, "there's your uncle over there, and he'll take us back."

"Where?" cried Miny.

"Right across the street in that store."

"So 'tis," said Miny, both girls running quickly over.

"Oh, Uncle Simon," began Miny, before she was fairly inside, "we're lost, Sallie and I, and in Port au Prince, too. Take us back to your vessel before Sallie's mother finds it out; do!" she coaxed.

"Yes," begged Sallie, "please do, Captain Starbuck; mama'll be so frightened when the mate goes back without us."

"Would you know the vessel if you should see her?" he asked.

There were several men about, and they looked at one another inquisitively.

"Oh, yes," said Miny, "there isn't so many vessels over here as there were on the other side. I think Port au Prince is a pretty place, after all, don't you?"

"I believe I shall after this," he admitted, getting ready to go.

"I'm glad you brought your vessel over here, if we did get lost, Captain Starbuck," Sallie remarked, as they went out the door, "real glad," not conscious that the great joy she felt welling up in her heart was due to the fact that they were returning to their friends, instead of perhaps meeting a fate approaching the terrible one Miny had in mind as they walked slowly along, all three unduly quiet.

"If I leave you here you can run along the wharf until you come to the Water Witch," said their companion, as they turned down to the water.

"Please don't, Captain Starbuck, please—"

Sallie screamed aloud just then. For there in front of them was Captain Starbuck coming to meet them, and there beside them was Captain Starbuck seeing them aboard the vessel.

"Silas!" called the one coming.

"Simon!" exclaimed the one going along with the girls.

It was an exciting moment. Miny was agitated by the fear that she had grown suddenly ill. She trembled from head to foot, and drew closer to the uncle nearest her. They walked along. She never knew how, until they came to the Water Witch. She doesn't remember that anybody spoke, but Sallie says that such cheers as greeted their approach were never anywhere before heard.

They went down into the captain's state-room, and the two uncles sat down opposite each other. Miny understood them when they said Si and Sim. But everybody was talking, and the conversation fell on her ears like the jargon of words only.

"If you'll believe me," she told the twins, after she got home, "it never entered my head who it was until Sallie came up behind me and whispered, 'That's your father.'"

"What'd you do then?" they wanted to know.

"Run up and put my arms around his neck

THE MUSCULAR SYSTEM



of every weary, thin or thin blooded person does its work with constant difficulty and fatigue. They feel "worn," or tired out, "run-down" or nervous.

Feeble people who are dyspeptic, find that exercise after a meal is sure to cause lessened power to digest food—because there is so little blood, and what there is, is carried off from the gastric organs to the muscles.

What is needed is plenty of blood, and that of the right kind. Dr.

Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery makes pure, rich blood, and to gain in blood is nearly always to gain in *wholesome flesh* up to the healthy standard.

Every one should have a certain surplus of flesh to meet the emergencies of sickness; to resist the attack of consumption, grip, malaria and fevers. Thin blooded people are always getting sick, and none of the organs of the body can get along without the food they require for work, which is, *pure blood*. To gain and to keep strength and flesh is the secret of health, usefulness and happiness. With new blood and refreshed nerves a confident feeling of returning health comes also.

Nervous manifestations, such as sleeplessness, nervous debility and nervous prostration are in nine cases out of ten "the cry of the starved nerves for food." If you feed the nerves on pure rich blood the nervous symptoms will cease. It is bad practice to put the nerves to sleep with so-called celery mixtures, coca compounds or malt extracts; what is needed is a blood maker. The "Discovery" is composed of vegetable ingredients which have an especial effect upon the stomach, liver, and blood making glands. For the cure of dyspepsia, indigestion, liver complaint, weakened vitality, and for puny, pale people, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cannot be equaled. Thousands have testified to its merits.

and kissed him. Then I asked him if there'd been any more insurrections."

"Ob, ho!" laughed Horace.

"Insurrections, I should say," exclaimed Harold. "I should 'a' thought you'd wanted to know how he got away from the scamps that night. It's the first question I asked."

"I never thought of that," Miny acknowledged, surprised at her lack of forethought.

"I guess nobody else would," maintained Horace, "if they'd just found their father."

"'Twas a pretty narrow squeeze," volunteered Harold. "The man who was carrying Uncle Si's mate slipped down, and while he was getting up, his man ran away. The one carrying Uncle Si put chase, but he couldn't run and keep his grip on Uncle Si at the same time; so he got away, too."

"How'd you know about it?" interrupted Horace.

"Uncle Si told us the night you and Mine went down to Dr. Rice's. Say, Mine," he broke off to add.

"Yes, Mine," put in Horace, "we might as well confess now as any time—"

"You haven't got anything to confess," declared Miny loftily, breaking into a hearty laugh at sight of the look on either boy's face when she told them that their father knew what they were up to, and began to worry about her coming down with the measles before they were out of sight of land. But she had had the measles when she was a baby, she informed him.

"So mama said," remarked Horace, whose conscience had been troublesome, and so he went to his mother with the whole story.

"Uncle Si and the mate wouldn't come home," continued Harold, who always was ready to relate this narrative, which remains an interesting one in the Starbuck household, "until they had as much money as the natives destroyed that night. So they shipped for Brazil, and went into the rubber trade. The mate came back to Port au Prince, and kept a store there, and Uncle Si kept him supplied. He hadn't been back more than a week when Mine walked in."

"No!" sighed Miny, which expressed great relief to the glad-hearted girl, whose nature was so overjoyed she could not find words to tell it.

"Papa said it was the merest luck, his hauling over to Port au Prince at all," said Horace.

"It wasn't luck at all," stoutly maintained their listener. "It was just the way I had to find my father; and he says he shall always speak of the trip as Miny's voyage."

FOR OBESITY.

Take no water or other fluid at any time, says the *Medical Times and Register*, except one cup of any desired hot drink, just before rising from the table. Use no liquids while eating. Avoid sugar, nuts and pastry. Eat nothing between meals. Confine the diet to lean beef, mutton, chicken, turkey, fish, eggs, oysters, with one slice of stale bread well dipped, the bulk of the meal being of tomatoes, celery, spinach, turnips, cabbage leaf, but not the fleshy midrib, and fresh or dried fruits, cooked without sugar, such as apples, peaches, plums, prunes, prunelles.

A little cheese is permissible; coffee, tea, skimmed milk or buttermilk after eating, as stated. Exercise should be taken, running being most effectual, before breakfast or before going to bed.

THE DAKOTA HOT SPRINGS.

The Hot Springs of Arkansas have long been deservedly popular, for the reason that there has been no other place that has filled the requirements of both a health and a pleasure resort. This state of affairs has changed. The Hot Springs of South Dakota have, in recent years, been thrown open to the people, and because of their delightful situation and great curative qualities, are becoming more popular every day. Situated as this resort is, in the famous Black Hills, in the midst of beautiful mountain scenery, possessing that peculiar balsamic atmosphere which is in itself health giving, with waters that are pronounced by experts equal if not superior to those of any other mineral springs in the world, it will soon outrank any other like resort.

The hotel accommodations are of the best—hostelries with all the modern improvements and conveniences. The Evans Hotel, built of pink sandstone, with steam heat, electric lights, and every room an outside one, is easily the best-conducted house between Chicago and Denver. Fine bath-houses are connected with the best hotels. The rates of all the hotels are very reasonable. The surrounding country is more than picturesque—it is wonderful. The marvelous "Wind Cave;" the falls of Fall River; Battle Mountain, the old Indian battle-ground; Deadwood and the gold fields, and the famous Bad Lands are all within driving distance. The mammoth plunge bath at the Springs is noted as being one of the largest natatoriums in the world. So healthful are the surroundings, and so many the conveniences of this "Carlsbad of America," that it is rapidly becoming the "Mecca," not only for invalids, but for pleasure-seekers as well. The "Burlington Route" reaches there in a day and a half from St. Louis. Pullman sleepers and free chair cars on train No. 15 run to Lincoln, and from Lincoln free chair cars and sleepers run through to the Springs.

For further information, call on any "Burlington Route" Agent, or address D. O. Ives, B. P. and T. A., St. Louis, Mo.

SWEET SLUMBER.

A weary day of struggle amid life's seething throng is ended, after hours that have been extremely long. With bustle, whirl and worry my brain seems yet to leap

As I gladly draw the curtains and compose myself to sleep.

Like the misty dew from heaven o'er my relaxed senses fall

A rest, as full of gladness as a wild bird's answering call,

And the hum of life grows fainter, night's shadows 'round me creep

A sigh for earth's remembrance, and I give myself to sleep.

Now my buoyant spirit releas'd from its worldly fetters, free,

Like a ship, starts on a journey out upon an unknown sea;

Looking back upon the present and then out on the deep,

My soul is free to wander—let the tired body sleep.

Oh, the greetings of our loved ones, who have passed from life away!

And the visions of Elysium, that will never know decay;

Inexpressible emotions of joy, that I would keep.

Like a slave that's freed from bondage is my soul when I'm asleep.

Is not each day an example of our life as it shall be? Is not sleep death for the moment? It appears that way to me.

And the waking resurrection. Why, then, should mortals weep

Because our dear ones leave us? They have only gone to sleep.

—W. B. Reeve, in *Brooklyn Eagle*.

FACTS ABOUT FLOUR.

Much trouble in cooking arises from the difference in various brands of flour. There are often, indeed, variations in the same brand. All are caused by the different modes of making flour and changes in the kind of wheat used.

When flour is made by the roller process, two cupfuls will make a much stiffer batter than flour made by the old process of grinding between stones or produced by first crushing by rollers, then grinding between stones. Millers all over the country are always looking for, and frequently making improvements in the process which they are accustomed to follow. This necessarily results in changes in the texture and quality of their products. Then, too, it makes a difference whether the wheat used is spring or winter wheat. In the eastern states, where mills are few, the flour comes largely from Minnesota and other western states. The flour has for the last fifteen or twenty years been made almost wholly by the roller process, and chiefly of spring wheat. The distinguishing quality of this flour is this: If rubbed between the fingers it feels rough and granular, and if pressed in the hand it will not hold its shape, but fall apart as granulated sugar would. When using this flour by measure, allow one eighth more wetting than for flour made by grinding between stones.

Recently a number of millers have modified the new process by using the rollers for cleansing, separating and grinding until the last stages of the work, when the flour is put between stones and ground smooth and fine. When this is done, the distinguishing features between the old and new processes are lost. This flour is smooth to the touch, will keep in shape if pressed in the hand, and will not absorb as much moisture as the more granular kind. It can be used equally well for bread, cake and pastry. Some of the mills in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan make this flour in perfection.

Flour that is made of new spring wheat will not give so good bread when first made as it will after it has been kept for a month or more. A great deal of the trouble with bread comes from the condition of the flour. A barrel of flour that will not make good bread to-day, simply because the wheat was too new when ground, will, if kept for two months, make perfect bread if the yeast be good; for, after all, the yeast is more frequently than the flour the cause of failure to make satisfactory bread.

When one buys flour in small quantities, there will always be an uncertainty as to how it will work until after the first time it is used. Even in small families it is better to get flour by the barrel, as it improves with age. Another thing for the housekeeper to remember is that the whitest flour is not the most nutritious. What is called first quality flour does not contain nearly so large a quantity of the best elements of the wheat as the second quality, which is much darker, but gives a sweeter and more nutritious loaf.

THE REST CURE.

The rest cure is now practiced at home by many women who have come to a proper realization of its value. It used to be an expensive remedy, necessitating an absence of six or eight weeks in a private hospital, with trained nurse, masseuse and the rest, including a trunk full of pretty tea-gowns for the convalescence. Now the sensible woman has discovered she can take her cure in homeopathic doses, without stopping her work or quitting her family.

A half hour daily of complete retirement, lying down in loose clothes and banishing all worry, all thought, indeed, if possible, works wonders if persevered in. Have the shades drawn and close the eyes. A tired brain strays restfully in darkened ways; even mechanical eye-impressions of which one does not seem to be thinking at all, consume a little force;

blindness, physically and mentally, is what is sought, and it is this that rests and restores.

For the woman whose work is at home, the half hour immediately preceding or following luncheon is apt to be one that could be spent in this way. When there are children old enough to go to school, after the meal is better, for the little ones will have turned back to their lessons, no callers need be expected, and the afternoon's task or engagement can usually brook this little delay. For the mothers whose babies are still in arms, the rest should be taken while their little charges sleep.

The business woman, whose work must be done at office or shop, must invent her chance for rest. It is a common habit of several young newspaper women, reporters, to step into one of the big shops or hotels, seek the parlor and conscientiously rest for fifteen or thirty minutes, as their time permits. In shops it must be taken with the stop for luncheon, as a rule; in offices it may also have to be, but often there is a lull in business that may be almost regularly depended upon.

The hod-carrier finishes the contents of his dinner-pail, then lolls against a friendly fence in sheer animal rest. Perhaps he lights a pipe—as often he does—but he rests in every fiber of his being. A shop-girl hurries over her bread and tea to try her eyes and tax her interest with a story-paper, eagerly devoured until the last moment, or she spends her rest-time in exciting gossip with her neighbors. Either is foolish expenditure of needed force. The closer the strain the greater the need for the complete and daily respite, however brief. Such workers should pursue the opportunity to take it relentlessly.—*Philadelphia Times*.

FATE OF OLD RUBBERS.

A *Mirror* reporter dropped into the store of Representative Frank O. Clement, to find out from him, if possible, what becomes of rubbers when they are worn out. Mr. Clement very willingly imparted some of the salient points concerning their disposal.

Reckoning the population of this state in round numbers as 400,000, and allowing two and one half pounds per year as the amount worn by each person, it would amount to 1,000,000 pounds, or 500 tons, annually. This estimate will hold good throughout the United States, where there is as much snow as we have here.

The ragmen whose voices are so often heard on our streets, go from house to house picking these rubbers up and bringing them in. They are then pressed into a bale containing about 900 pounds, and shipped to the manufacturers of rubber goods. All the dirt, iron nails and cloth are removed from them, and they are then ground up and reduced to a soft or pulpy substance somewhat like caoutchouc, or rubber, the latter of which, as is well known, comes principally from South America, and is obtained from the sap of a certain kind of tree there. The old and the new rubber are then mixed, the proportion of each varying with the stock they are intended to be used for. This mixture is then used for the manufacture of rubber footwear of all kinds, belting, hose, wearing apparel, mechanical goods, etc.

Outside of this city, Mr. Clement has over one hundred men gathering for him in the states of New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine, who are sending him nearly 2,000 pounds each day, and he expects to handle during this season nearly, if not quite, 300 tons.

While rubbers are the main thing in this business, large quantities of iron, metals and rags are also bought and disposed of.—*Manchester (N. H.) Mirror*.

THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT SLEEPING.

Sunlight is good for everything but feathers. The best number of persons to each bed is one.

Away with heavy hangings, either above or below the bed.

Beware of a dusty, musty carpet; better sweetness and a bare floor.

Do not fail to provide some means for ventilation during the night.

Keep the head cool while sleeping, but not by a draft of cold air falling upon it.

If a folding-bed must be used, contrive some way to keep it aired and wholesome.

Let the pillow be high enough to bring the head in a natural position; no more or less.

Thoroughly air the sleeping-room every day; air the beds and bedding as often as possible.

A dark, out-of-the-way, unwholesome corner is no more fitted for a sleeping-room than for a parlor.

A feather-bed which has done service for a generation or two is hardly a desirable thing upon which to sleep.—*Good Housekeeping*.

Among the foremost builders of modern, stylish, serviceable and medium-priced vehicles may be classed the firm of "The Anderson & Harris Carriage Co., of Elmwood Place, Ohio. Their works possess every modern mechanical appliance for rapid production of first-class vehicles at a minimum cost. They build every part "from the ground up," and thereby save the purchaser several intermediate profits. Every vehicle is "up to date" as to style, which are original with them, and are built "upon honor" for service. See their adv. in this issue, and if interested in something good and reasonable in price in the vehicle line, write them for confidential prices, etc., and mention this paper.

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He never made a campaign speech,
An' hardly ever votes;
An' all the money that he knows
Is plain one dollar notes.

Don't say a word in meetin';
Don't talk much on the street;
But you jest git around him
An' shuffle with your feet—

Au' then you'll see that feller
Knows how to walk a chalk!
Jest put some rozzum on his bow,
An' make a fiddle talk!

—New York Commercial Advertiser.

HOW A PIANO IS TUNED.

"Plunk—plunk—kerchug—twang—twang—bang!"

You have heard these sounds before, though they look a little unfamiliar when reproduced on paper. They represent the performance of a piano-tuner from an outside and tympanic standpoint. They are the tangible and disagreeable part of the necessary business of putting in tune an instrument which, alas, too many people spend a deplorably large part of their lives in putting out of tune.

This business of tuning pianos, which certainly looks rather mysterious as you watch the manner in which the operator pries up first one string and then another, sounding meanwhile a confused jargon of notes, until the puzzled listener does not know an octave from a fifth, is not, however, as difficult and as mysterious as it at first appears.

All that is required is an exact ear and a few simple tools; namely, a tuning-fork (usually a C fork), a long, hammer-like key, and a wedge, or mute. The accuracy of the tuner's ear is partly a natural gift, partly the result of long practice.

Even the most unpracticed ear can readily distinguish sound from noise; sound is produced by regular vibrations, while noise is a mixture of sounds thrown together without reference to any law. High notes have a large number of vibrations per second, while low notes have a small number. The highest A is calculated to have 3,480 vibrations per second, while the lowest A has only 27½.

The majority of tuners have adopted a method of tuning which includes but two intervals—the octave and the fifth. The ordinary square piano has two strings, and most uprights have three strings, to each note, except in the lower octave. The pitch of one of these strings is tuned in the relation of octave or fifth to some previous note. The remaining strings are then tuned in unison with the first string. As the strings approach unison, a number of strong and rapid beats or pulsations are perceptible to the ear; as they come still closer the beats become slower, until finally they are no longer to be heard. Then the unison is perfect.

The ear in tuning is guided by progression from a confused sound to strong beats, and then from smooth waves to one continuous sound. Unisons and octaves are always tuned perfect; that is, the beats must entirely disappear. In the fifths, when perfectly tuned, there will be neither wave nor beat.

It generally takes about three years to learn the business, and a good workman will make from \$18 to \$35 a week. A few women have been employed as tuners, with great success.—*New York Recorder.*

THE MERCENARY CHINESE.

Ch'ien, ch'ien, ch'ien—money, money, money—is the real Chinese god. At home or abroad, the Mongols are a race of shopkeepers. Buying, bartering, exchanging and selling is the order of their every-day life.

Ch'ien is the one subject that their hearts are full of, and rarely enough, among the common people, at least, does one rise above the sordid greed for gold, or know a higher ambition than that of money-getting. They are not a race of misers, but of buyers, sellers and gamblers. They gamble in trade, and take chances on every imaginable thing. Talk to the heathen of his soul never so earnestly, you may not distract his mind from his one object in life, the pursuit of ch'ien.

"Where was this bought?" "How much did that cost?" are questions continually in the mouths of the Chinese, no matter where they are. A missionary recently from China tells a characteristic story of the average Mougol's curiosity.

"In Hong-Kong," says he, "I was one day in company with our senior pastor in the native streets, looking at some of the showy things in the booth. In a moment one of our congregation touched my arm, saying, 'Teacher, how much did you give for those boots you have on?' Having told him the cost of these (English) shoes, the word was quickly passed around that they were dear, because they had cost 'five precious dollars.'"*—Will Clemens, in Lippincott's.*

THIS WILL INTEREST MANY.

F. W. Parkhurst, the Boston publisher, says that if any one who is afflicted with rheumatism in any form, or neuralgia, will send their address to him, at Box 1501, Boston, Mass., he will direct them to a perfect cure. He has nothing to sell or give; only tells you how he was cured. Hundreds have tested it with success.

THE PROFESSION OF WIFE.

Of the three distinctively natural womanly professions, those of wife, mother and housewife, that of wife has been comparatively neglected of late years. On the other hand, motherhood and housewifery have attained the dignity of sciences. The periodical literature of to-day teems with special advice and instruction to those holding these professions.

Now it is submitted that women have become mothers and housekeepers altogether too much. Young children must be properly cared for, and homes must be made and kept by women. This is undoubtedly true. But to be a complete mother and housekeeper is not the end and aim of every woman's existence, even though she is married and has children. Many women have thought so, and in carrying out their idea have submerged mind and body, believing such sacrifice laudable and necessary.

But in doing so they have ignored and nearly lost sight of a profession of equal dignity and importance. Nay, of primary and paramount importance and dignity, since the "woman" and the "wife" may exist without either of the other professions, while the others cannot exist without these. And the most perfect specimen of mother and housekeeper is a very weak-minded and miserable specimen unless she has first realized the full completion of her womanhood and wifehood.

The first year or two of married life has been heretofore thought sufficient time for a woman to give to her husband as companion, comrade, friend—in short, specially to her profession of wife. After that she sinks herself more or less completely, according to her disposition and temperament, into being a mother and housewife. However finely equipped the woman may be mentally and physically for social and intellectual companionship, and for a life in which such powers take prominent part, she appears to regard the sacrifice of the best part of her nature and attainments as inevitable, and for the most part she consents to it with a good grace.

Slowly but surely the husband is relegated to his newspapers, his solitary cigar, then to his club and his special friends, for entertainment and solace. But his home is a marvel of order and neatness, his clothing is in perfect order, and his dinners are marvelously served. What more can the man want? His children are models of health and propriety. His wife is a devoted mother and a notable housekeeper. What can a man ask more than this?

—*Harper's Bazar.*

A WORD TO THE SLEEPLESS.

Dr. J. E. Huxley, of Maidstone, England, thinks he has hit upon the natural remedy for sleeplessness. It is, in brief, to curl under the clothes like a kitten, or put the head under the wing like a hen. He says: "This insomnia seems to be now a universal affliction. We live wrongly; sit up late and overwork the brain, and then go to bed in an excited condition. No one seems to have hit upon the natural remedy. I think I have. People take chloral and the like at their peril, and the fatal consequence not seldom ensues. It is all wrong, for you cannot control the dose required for the exact circumstances. But try nature's plan instead: Lower the supply of oxygen to the blood, produce a little asphyxia, limit the quantity of air to the lungs and heart, and circulation becoming quicker, the brain loses its stimulant and sleep follows. When you find yourself 'in' for a sleepless night, cover your head with the bed-clothes and breathe and rebreathe only the respired air. Thus you may reduce the stimulating oxygen and fall asleep. There is no danger. When asleep you are sure to disturb the covering and get as much fresh air as you require, or when once drowsiness has been produced, it is easy to go on sleeping, though the air be fresh. What do the cat and dog do when they prepare to sleep? They turn around generally three times, and lastly bury their noses in some hollow in their hair and 'off' they go. They are in no danger, although it might look as if they were from the closeness with which they embed their noses."*—From the Medical Press and Circular.*

"THE MONROE DOCTRINE."

It was stated at the commencement of the last session that a great effort was then making in Spain and Portugal to improve the condition of the people of those countries, and that it appeared to be conducted with extraordinary moderation. It need scarcely be remarked that the result has been, so far, very different from what was then anticipated. Of events in that quarter of the globe, with which we have so much intercourse, and from which we derive our origin, we have always been anxious and interested spectators. The citizens of the United States cherish sentiments the most friendly, in favor of the liberty and happiness of their fellow-men on that side of the Atlantic. In the wars of the European powers, in matters relating to themselves, we have never taken any part, nor does it comport with our policy so to do. It is only when our rights are invaded or seriously menaced that we resent injuries or make preparation for our defense. With the movements in this hemisphere we are, of necessity, more immediately connected, and by causes which must be obvious to all enlightened and impartial observers. The political system of the allied powers is essentially different in this respect from that of America. This difference pro-

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ceeds from that which exists in their respective governments. And to the defense of our own, which has been achieved by the loss of so much blood and treasure and matured by the wisdom of their most enlightened citizens, and under which we have enjoyed unexampled felicity, this whole nation is devoted.

We owe it, therefore, to candor and to the amicable relations existing between the United States and those powers, to declare that we should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety. With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power we have not interfered and shall not interfere. But with the governments who have declared their independence, and maintained it, and whose independence we have, on great consideration and on just principles acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them, or controlling, in any other manner, their destiny by any European power, in any other light than as the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States.—*From President Monroe's Message, December 22, 1823.*

EAT APPLES.

The *Practitioner* says apples have many good medicinal qualities. Chemically they are composed of vegetable fiber, albumen, sugar, gum, chlorophyl, malic acid, gallic acid, lime and much water. Furthermore, the German analysts say that the apple contains a larger percentage of phosphorus than any other fruit or vegetable. The phosphorus is admirably adapted to repewing the essential nervous matter of the brain and the spinal cord. It is, perhaps, for the same reason, rudely understood, that old Scandinavian traditions represent the apple as the food of the gods, who, when they felt themselves to be growing feeble and infirm, resorted to this fruit, renewing their powers of mind and body.

The acids of the apple are of singular use for men of sedentary habits, whose livers are sluggish in action, those acids serving to eliminate from the body noxious matters, which, if retained, would make the brain heavy and dull, or bring about jaundice or skin eruptions and other allied troubles. Some such experience must have led to the custom of taking apple sauce with roast pork, rich goose, and other like dishes. The malic acid of ripe apples, either raw or cooked, will neutralize any excess of chalky matter engendered by eating too much meat.

It is also a fact that such fruits as the apple, the pear and the plum, when taken ripe and without sugar, diminish acidity in the stomach rather than provoke it. Their vegetable sauces and juices are converted into alkaline carbonates by the chemical action of the stomach juices, which tend to counteract acidity.

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THE ALTRUISTIC REVIEW,
Springfield, Ohio.

Our Household.

VALUED RECIPES.

CREAM CHOCOLATE CARAMELS.—Mix in a graniteware saucepan half a pint of sugar, half a pint of molasses, half a pint of thick cream, one generous tablespoonful of butter and four ounces of chocolate. Place on the fire and stir until the mixture boils. Cook until a few drops of it will harden if dropped into ice-water; then pour into well-buttered pans, having the mixture about three inches deep. When nearly cold, mark into squares. It will take almost an hour to boil this in a graniteware pan, but not half so long if cooked in an iron frying-pan. Stir frequently while boiling. The caramels must be put in a very cold place to harden.

BROWN BREAD.—Boil three medium-sized potatoes in three pints of water until thoroughly cooked. Pour the water over one half pint of wheat flour and one half cupful of sugar; mash the potatoes and add to it; while the mixture is scalding hot, stir in one pint of corn-meal, and then cool to the temperature of new milk; now add one cupful of yeast, or one yeast cake that has been well soaked in a cupful of warm water, stir well, and add enough Graham and fine flour (equal proportions) to make a stiff batter; let rise about six hours in a warm place, and when light, add enough more Graham and fine flour in about equal proportions so that you can knead the bread into loaves. Do not forget to put in a little salt before you knead; and if one likes bread very sweet, more sugar can be added, also. Sift in one teaspoonful of soda with the flour as the bread is ready to mix, and do not mix very hard with flour. Let loaves rise until about double their size, when put in tins, and bake one hour. Father thinks it is almost equal to the

will fill the bill, for a change, I think. In the first place, procure five cents' worth of carbonate of ammonia, keep in a tight can until ready for use; that amount is enough for two recipes. One cupful of cream, sweet, quite thick, one cupful of sweet milk, in which dissolve one half the ammonia, powdered fine, two cupfuls of sugar, one tablespoonful of lemon extract. Mix stiff with flour, roll thin, cut in squares, prick several times with a fork to prevent blistering, and bake in a quick oven. They raise very light, and make a nice change, we think. Some people might object to the ammonia and think it not as healthy as soda and cream of tartar; but I am sure it has never hurt any of our family or friends, and I cannot see how this recipe could injure any one if used once in awhile as a change from cookies all the time. GYPSY.

HASH.—Chop the meat fine; if you have a cupful, put in two eggs and season to your taste, and chop the eggs in the meat; then grease the pie-tin, set in the oven just long enough to cook the eggs. This is no boarding-house hash, and there is no patent on it. MRS. ANNA R. WOLF.

California.

HOME TOPICS.

SPRING SOUP.—To make two quarts of soup, cut up enough vegetables—onions, potatoes, spinach, asparagus and lettuce—to fill a quart bowl. Put a half teacupful of butter into a saucepan, and when it is hot, put in the vegetables, and stir them until they begin to brown a little; then add a quart of boiling water, and season with pepper and salt. Let it boil slowly for an hour, then strain it through the colander, rubbing it all through. Add enough boiling water to make the requisite quantity of soup; return it to the fire, and add a tablespoonful of browned flour, wet with a little cold water, as soon as it

energies directed into proper channels, are forever getting into mischief. I do not deny that it is a trouble to teach children to do work properly, but when once taught, what a help and comfort they can be to you! Besides, it is one of their "rights" to be taught how to work.

All little children love to imitate, and it is a pleasure to them to think they are helping mama. Let little three-year-old have her doll's bed dressed with sheets, blankets, counterpane and pillows. Then

either, I assure you, when little Bright-eyes has finished her work.

I think a mistake that is often made is, after a child has learned to do one kind of work well, to keep them always doing that one thing, instead of teaching them something new. Let the little boys learn to help mama, too. It will not make them any the less manly to wash dishes, sweep a room, lay the table, or when older, occasionally knead the bread or dress a chicken for tired mother, when she is without any



STAMP-PLATES.

show her how to make it nicely, and as soon as she is tall enough she will make her own bed with as much care. Let her have her own little dish-pans and tea-towels to wash her doll's tea-dishes, showing her how to do it in the best way, and when she is a few years older she will surprise you by the deft way she can do real work of that kind. A little maid at our house, not quite seven years old, can make her own little bed, and tidy her room as well as any one, and is very proud of it, too. Nothing pleases this same little

other help in the kitchen, as often happens in the country home.

I do not advocate making drudges of children or keeping them always at work. Far from it. But I do say that they are far happier, besides being better fitted for after life, if they are early taught to work and given some little tasks for which they are made responsible. MAIDA McL.

STAMP-PLATES.

These unique articles are quite the rage at present. The decoration is made of canceled stamps, neatly cut and pasted, and the whole varnished with fine white varnish. The clover plate is made entirely of two-cent stamps, the ribbon corresponding in color. The national plate is decorated with one-cent and two-cent stamps, alternated, thus giving the colors. The border is composed of the heads; the wreath, of the lettering from around the heads. The flag stripes are composed of the stripes marked "Two Cents," from the bottom of the stamp, and the bow of the same, while the stars are represented by six 1's from penny stamps. The long ornaments are from the Columbian stamps marked two cents. Lincoln is framed with the lettering from a stamped envelop. Blue and red ribbon complete this plate, which can be used either as a mantel ornament or card-receiver. The plates are of opaque glass with openwork borders, and are quite inexpensive. They can be wiped off with a damp cloth to clean them, but must not be put in water to soak any time. M. E. SMITH.

DRESSES FOR LITTLE GIRLS.

These charming gowns for the little girls are adaptable to all materials. Combined with lace, velvet or silk as trimming, the effect is very good.

Blouse effects will be used on girls' dresses as well as for their mamas, and need a close-fitting underlining to keep them in shape. Soft goods are best for this style—challis, cotton crape, India silk and soft wools. Wiry goods are best made in more severe styles. L. L. C.

TOOTHACHE REMEDY.

If tooth is hollow, fill cavity with pine-tar, or keep filled with wax made of pine-tar and resin. It is a sure and speedy cure. For burns or scalds, if applied immediately, and kept on till healed over, it is a relief. Hansen, Neb. I. W. F.

A certain Chinese sect teaches that women who become vegetarians will be transformed into men in the great hereafter.



DRESSES FOR LITTLE GIRLS.

corn-bread that the good old grandmother used to bake in the days of brick ovens and fireplaces. GYPSY.

BISCUITS.—We have tried a new plan for biscuit, and like it very much.

- 1 cupful of sweet milk,
- 1 tablespoonful of butter, melted,
- 1 teaspoonful of soda,
- 2 teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar,
- ½ teaspoonful of salt.

Enough flour to make them as stiff as can be easily stirred with a spoon, or so that the dough will drop off the spoon in chunks, and not run in strings; then drop a spoonful of dough in each gem-tin and bake in a quick oven. They bake so quickly, brown so nicely, and seem better in every way, we think. GYPSY.

LEMON CRACKERS.—Sometimes one gets tired of the regulation sugar cookies, ginger cookies, and longs for something new, something different. This recipe

boils up once. Serve with inch squares of toasted bread dusted with salt.

SORREL.—Very few cooks in this country make any use of the sorrel which grows so abundantly in most country places. It is an excellent addition to vegetable soups, and makes a most appetizing salad when used alone or added to other vegetable salads. Pick the large, tender leaves from the stems, and serve with mayonnaise or any other salad dressing.

LET THE CHILDREN WORK.—Many a mother never allows her children to try to help about the house work, because they cannot do the work as well as she can, or because she does not want to take the trouble to teach them the right way of doing things. In consequence of this she is overworked herself and is always too tired to be the sympathetic companion her children need; and the children, who must be busy about something, not having their

maiden more than to don her housemaid's cap, and with her own little broom sweep down the front stairs, and then with her own dust-cloth carefully wipe the banisters. No dust is left in the corners,



ONE THING IS CERTAIN, PAIN KILLER KILLS PAIN.

A Midnight Walk

with a colicky baby or a colicky stomach isn't pleasant. Either can be avoided by keeping a bottle of Perry Davis' PAIN KILLER on the medicine shelf. It is invaluable in sudden attacks of Cramps, Cholera Morbus, Dysentery and Diarrhoea. Just as valuable for all external pains.

DOSE—One teaspoonful in a half glass of water or milk (warm if convenient).

A HOUSEKEEPER'S NOTES.

WHAT DO WE READ?—Going into a home presided over by a Christian mother of considerable culture and refinement, one whom I knew to be ambitious for the future welfare of her sons and daughters, I was surprised and pained to see on the family reading-table, copies of a strongly sensational story-paper. Knowing by the label on it that she was a subscriber and receiving it regularly, it set me to thinking seriously on the subject of what we read.

It has been said that we are influenced more by the books we read than by the company we keep, and observation has caused me to consider this a true statement; then how careful we should be as to the literature that finds its way into our homes.

We read for instruction and amusement, and that which amuses should also elevate. We all unconsciously though it may be—strive to reach an ideal life, and this ideal is formed largely by impressions that come to us through quiet channels, and one of the greatest, if not most important, of these is our reading. Then how careful we should be not to allow in our house, books or papers that portray characters that we would not allow in our home in real flesh and blood.

In many instances where children in good homes have gone astray, it is not so much because of natural depravity, but because of wrong impressions and ideals of life begotten by improper reading, that has breathed its subtle poison week after week, and year after year; so-called love-stories, holding up to our children and youth pictures of life exciting and unreal, if not positively immoral; giving them wrong ideas of life and of living, and of the noblest, grandest passion implanted by divine origin in our hearts, and making them dissatisfied with life, home and friends. Let us see to it, then, that these publications that are filled with exciting, trashy and sensational stories find no place in our homes, but are banished as completely as would be the men and women who are their heroes and heroines.

"But," say some, "these papers you denounce contain some good, after all." True, there is some good used in order to

them the true and beautiful; that which will arouse their enthusiasm, and make them ambitious to emulate the good qualities of these noble men and womanly women whose lives are held up as an example worthy to be followed.

With earnest and careful home instruction aided and strengthened by the quiet though mighty influence of good books and papers, then may we expect a moral and spiritual development in our children of which we may well be proud, and which will augur well for the future of our homes and home life.



NEWSPAPER-HOLDER.

AN EFFECTIVE COUGH MEDICINE.—We have been having a serious time at our house with bad colds, all three of the children being nearly sick, and coughing almost as hard as when they had whooping-cough. At night, on retiring, they were given a compress—a folded flannel cloth wrung from slightly warm water and placed over the lungs, with a dry cloth over it to keep the clothing dry. For daytime, I put two tablespoonfuls of flaxseed in a quart of water, and let it boil fifteen minutes, strained it, and added the juice of two lemons and sugar to taste, and let them drink a few swallows of it every hour,

cold, and the cough should be allayed in twelve hours, and cured within two or three days.

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERTS.

NEWSPAPER-HOLDER.

This handy article is made of heavy white linen momie-cloth or butcher's linen, twenty-four by thirty inches. After it is embroidered, double it and fasten at the top to a brass rod, leaving the openings at the sides to insert the papers.

Use gold filo and heavy silk for the embroidery. The filo for the smaller letters.

It can easily be laundered when soiled. Hang with gold satin ribbons.

A full-sized working pattern can be furnished for fifteen cents by addressing, care of this office, L. L. C.

LINEN DOILY.

The illustration we give is a new design in doilies. Many who cannot embroider can easily do these plain lace stitches. The entire pattern is worked in white. For the buttonhole-work around the arabesques, use filo; for the filling, use spool silk. The linen under the figures must be cut away when it is finished.

Finish the edge with brier-stitch and then fringe it. This is not so difficult as it seems. Cut the doily a little larger than you wish, and when it is all fringed it will be somewhat irregular; then trim into shape. LOUISE L. CHRISTIE.

OLD, YET NEW.

"There is nothing new under the sun," has come down to us from the ages, and yet if one takes note of the wonderful bags and baskets that have been evolved from the fertile brain of the fancy-work devotee, and the various uses to which they are put, they certainly admit that some things do really seem to be new.

Perhaps the cocoanut button-bag may be "as old as the hills" to "uns," but it was new to me when I saw it yesterday; hence, thought "I'd write it up" for the benefit of other "greenies" like myself. The button-bag was made of half of a cocoanut and old gold silk. Two holes had been bored in the bottom of the cocoanut-shell; out of the silk a bag had been made, having a casing run in the hem at the top, through which a ribbon had been inserted. By means of this ribbon draw-string the bag could be opened and closed ad libitum. By means of another ribbon fastened to the bottom of the bag, and drawn through the holes in the half shell, the bag was fastened securely within the cocoanut. Long loops and ends of the ribbon hanging below added to the effect.

The old-fashioned square pin-cushion has been revived in a novel manner. It is made of any material desired, but usually of silk bordered with a ruffle of lace. In the center a hole is left for the accommodation of a hair-pin receiver.

This receiver is made of a cocoa or small baking-powder can, and extends one half inch or more above the cushion. The sides of the can above the cushion are covered with shirred ribbon to match the silk. This ribbon is shirred a little distance from the edge, which is left as a ruffle to extend around the can over the cushion. Tinsel braid crocheted in an open pattern is stretched over the top of the can.

ELLA B. SIMMONS.

BRONCHITIS. Sudden changes of the weather cause Bronchial Troubles. "Brown's Bronchial Troches" will give effective relief.

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Have you
used Pears'
soap?

Did you ever
hear of a man
or woman be-
ginning to use
it and stopping?

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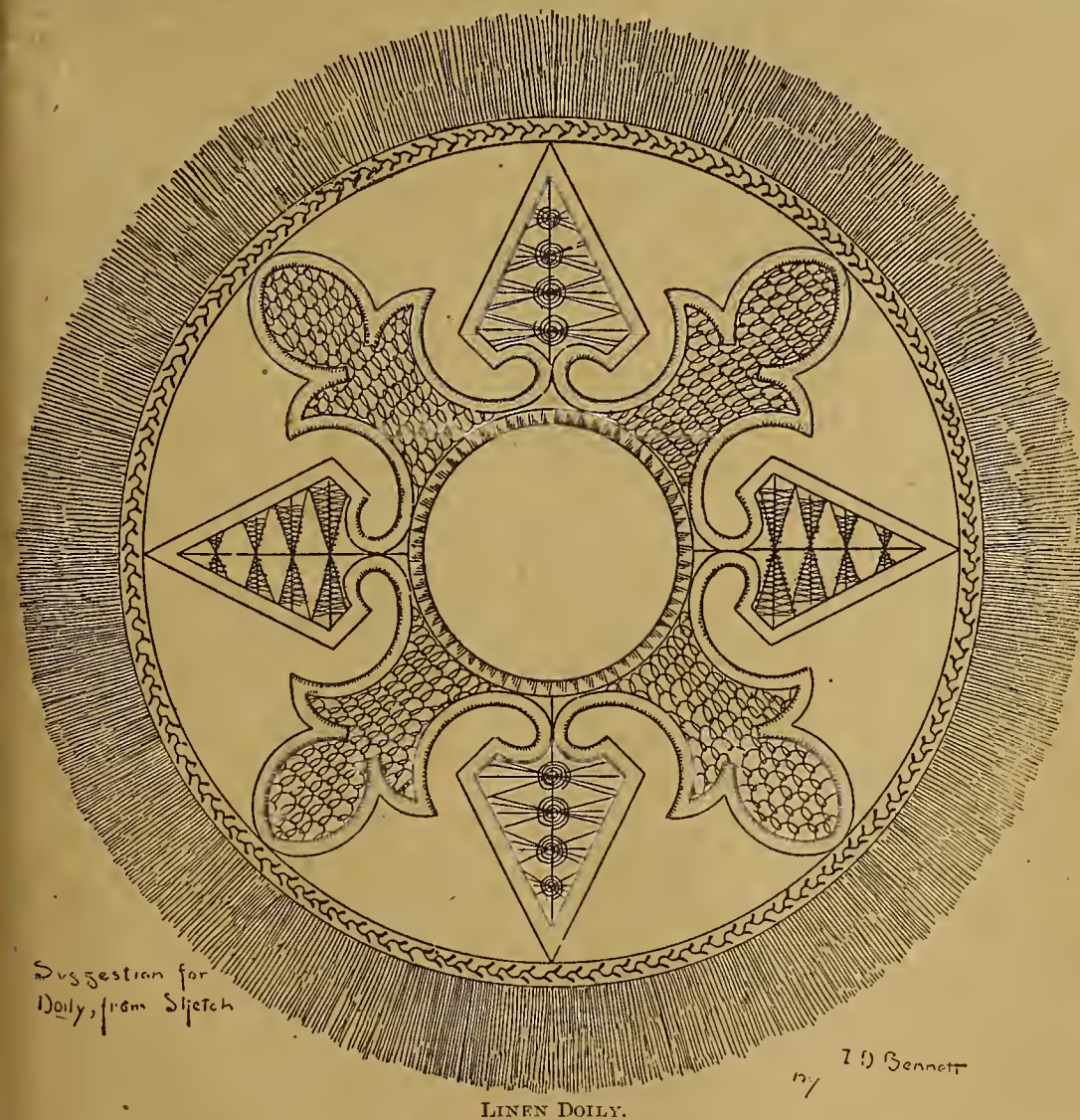
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Scott & Bowne, N. Y. All Druggists. 50c. and \$1

KILLING THE TURKEY.

[In three chapters.]



No. 1.—"Now, den, hol' dat tukkey still while I—"



LINEN DOILY.

Suggestion for
Doily, from Sketch

T. J. Bennett

sell the bad, but will the good counteract the effect of the bad? Into a bucket of clear water you may drop a little bluing, and all the water is at once colored. You may afterward add as much clear, pure water as you please, but the color still remains. So the bad will ever overshadow the little bit of good that these publications contain, and in their stead we should have papers of a high moral and intellectual tone—the good without the bad—for they are legion.

Stories our children must and should have, but they should be pure and simple, portraying real life, holding ever before

or perhaps oftener during the day, and they were soon well.

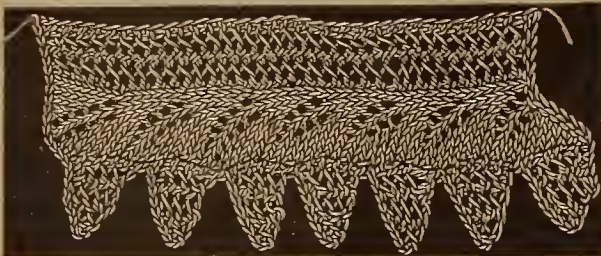
ONION SYRUP is equally effective if one cannot procure the flaxseed and lemons. Pare and slice two large onions into a quart of vinegar, and cook until the onions are tender. Strain through a thin cloth to extract all the juice; add two cupfuls of white sugar and boil until it is reduced to a pint. Bottle, cork well, and keep for use. A dose is from a teaspoonful to a tablespoonful every half hour, or two hours, according to age of patient and severity of cough. The patient should be well guarded from drafts, or anything liable to produce more

Our Household.

A LEAF WHEEL KNIT FOR FANCY DOILIES, TABLE-MATS, ETC.

ABBREVIATIONS.—K, knit; o, over; p, purl or seam; st, stitch; t, turn; n, narrow; sl, slip; tog, together; s and b, slip and bind.

When a circle is intended to be knit, the full pattern is to be knit over ten or twelve times, before the edges are joined together. And the first, third, fifth, seventh and ninth rows each are completed with six turns. The first and fifth turn of



EDGING.

each row is to be repeated like the first turn of the first row.

FOR THE WHEEL.

Cast on 55 stitches.

First row—K 2, o, n, n, k 5, o, k 1, o, k 2, o, n, o, n, k 1.

First turn—Sl 1, k 1, o, u, o, n, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, o, n, k 1.

Second turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 4, o, k 1, o, k 3, (o and n) five times, n, k 5, o, k 1, o, k 2, o, n, k 1.

Third turn—Sl 1, k 1, o, n, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, (o and n) five times, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, o, n, k 1.

Fourth turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 3, o, k 1, o, k 4, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Fifth turn—Repeat the same as the first turn.

Sixth turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 5, (o and n) five times, n, k 4, o, k 1, o, k 3, (o and n) three times, n, k 5, o, k 1, o, k 2, o, n, o, n, k 1. (58 st.)

Second, fourth, sixth, eighth and tenth rows—Sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, (o and n) three times, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, (o and n) five times, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, o, n, k 1.

Third row—K 2, o, n, n, k 1, o, k 1, o, k 6, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Second turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 5, o, k 1, o, k 2, (o and n) five times, n, k 3, o, k 1, o, k 4, o, n, k 1.

Third turn—Repeat the same as the third turn in the first row.

Fourth turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 4, o, k 1, o, k 3, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Sixth turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 3, o, k 1, o, k 4, (o and n) five times, u, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 5, (o and n) three times, n, k 4, o, k 1, o, k 3, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Fifth row—K 2, o, n, n, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 5, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Second turn—K 2, o, u, n, k 1, o, k 1, o, k 6, (o and n) five times, n, k 1, o, k 1, o, k 6, o, n, k 1.

Third turn—Repeat the same as the third turn in the first row.

Fourth turn—K 2, o, n, u, k 5, o, k 1, o, k 2, o, n, n, n, k 1.

Sixth turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 4, o, k 1, o, k 3, (o and n) five times, n, k 5, o, k 1, o, k 2, (o and n) three times, n, k 3, o, k 1, o, k 4, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Seventh row—K 2, o, n, n, k 3, o, k 1, o, k 4, o, n, o, n, k 1.



EDGING.

Second turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 5, (o and n) five times, n, k 4, o, k 1, o, k 3, o, n, k 1.

Third turn—Repeat the same as the third turn in the first row.

Fourth row—K 2, o, n, n, k 1, o, k 1, o, k 6, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Sixth turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 5, o, k 1, o, k 2, (o and n) five times, n, k 3, o, k 1, o, k 4, (o and n) three times, n, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 5, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Ninth row—K 2, o, n, n, k 4, o, k 1, o, k 3, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Second turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 3, o, k 1, o, k 4, (o and n) five times, n, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 5, o, n, k 1.

Third turn—Repeat the same as the third turn in the first row.

Fourth turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 5, o, n, o, u, k 1.

Sixth turn—K 2, o, n, n, k 1, o, k 1, o, k 6, (o and n) five times, n, k 1, o, k 1, o, k 6, (o and n) three times, n, k 1, o, k 1, o, k 6, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Repeat from the first row.

A NARROW LEAF EDGING, TO MATCH THE WHEEL.

Cast on 20 st, and knit once across plain.

First row—K 5, n, k 5, o, k 1, o, k 2, o, u, o, n, k 1.

Second row—K 2, o, n, o, n, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, o, n, o, n.

Third row—O, k 1, o, n, o, n, n, k 4, o, k 1, o, k 3, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Fourth row—K 2, o, n, o, n, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, o, u, o, n, o, k 1.

Fifth row—O, k 1, (o and n) three times, n, k 3, o, k 1, o, k 4, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Sixth row—K 2, o, n, o, n, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, o, n, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Seventh row—S and b off 2 st, k 1, o, n, o, n, n, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 5, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Eighth row—K 2, o, n, o, n, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Ninth row—S and b off 5 st, n, k 1, o, k 1, o, k 6, o, n, o, n, k 1.

Tenth row—K 2, o, n, o, n, p 8, p 2 tog, k 1, and cast on four more stitches loosely.

Repeat from the first row for the length required.

FOR THE FILLING OF THE WHEEL.

After it is joined together, if it is in-



SECTION OF WHEEL.

tended to be filled, crochet in the center 1 long treble stitch in each stitch, keep the last stitch of 3 or 5 long trebles on hook, and draw the five all together, chain 1 to hold them together. ELLA McCOWEN.

RECIPE FOR HARD SOAP.

The day for making home-made soap draweth apace. Somebody said there are two ways of making bread, our way and the wrong way. Perhaps it is the same way with making soap. At least this is our way, and an easy way for making hard soap:

Put into a kettle five gallons of cold rain-water, add two boxes of concentrated lye, two pounds of sal-soda and five pounds of grease; bring to a boil, and when all are well dissolved, the soap is done. Let it cool; when hardened, cut into blocks. M. D. S.

FOR BABY'S COLD.

Very frequently children, especially babies who have been exempt from colds during the winter months, are often troubled with them during the chilly, damp days of spring and early summer. An excellent remedy for this is to administer the vapor from steaming camomile. Procure the flowers of camomile and steep them for five minutes, then pour into a

wide-mouthed bottle and hold under the child's nose. Babies can be effectually cured of "the snuffles" and children of catarrh, if this practice be persisted in. E. B. S.

GOOD NEWS—WONDERFUL CURES OF CATARRH AND CONSUMPTION.

Our readers who suffer from Lung Diseases, Catarrh, Bronchitis and Consumption, will be glad to hear of the wonderful cures made by the new treatment known in Europe as the Andral-Brocha Discovery. Write to the New Medical Advance, 67 East 6th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, and they will send you this new treatment free for trial. State age and all particulars of your disease.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U.S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

HOW TO TIE SHOE-STRINGS.

"Stop a minute. My shoe-string is untied."

"Oh, dear! What a nuisance! Your shoes are always untying, and there's no car coming."

Result, fuss and bad temper. Though a shoe-string is a very easy thing to tie, not one person out of a hundred knows how to do it. We all know how to tie a bow and of what a bow consists—two loops and a knot in the middle. Now suppose, before you tighten your bow, and while you still have a loop in each hand, you take the loop in your right and pass it through the knot in the middle. Now go your usual way and give both loops a good hard tug to tighten them, and there you are! No more untied shoe-strings. No more lost cars. When you want to unfasten it, take one of the tag ends in your hand, give a good pull, and the thing is done, or rather undone, writes one of *Good Housekeeping's* correspondents.

HOW TO USE TRACING-PAPER.

Tracing upon linen is easily done by the use of copying, or tracing paper, which can be had of any stationer. Place the paper upon the linen, ink side down, and lay the design you wish to copy on top, secure it firmly, so it will not move, with pins or tacks stuck along the edges, then with a stiletto knitting-needle, or some other blunt point, mark over every

line of the design; the tracing will remain upon the linen when the design is removed, heavy or light, according to the pressure used in the tracing. Should the paper mark too heavy, or soil the linen, rubbing it over with alcohol will prevent it coming off too freely. When a perforated design cannot be obtained, good results can be secured with careful use of tracing-paper. M. E. SMITH.

Oliver Wendell Holmes' library has been appraised at only \$804.50. Whereat some people express surprise; but the man who buys \$804.50 worth of the right kind of books, and really learns all that can be learned from them, will know as much as any one man ought to know, and more than any one man ever did know.

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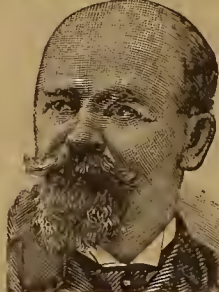
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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Heaviest Yielding Onions.—A. R. Seneca Falls, writes: "What kind of onion of mild and good flavor will produce the largest number of bushels?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Plant the Prizetaker, preferably on the new method of transplanting.

Artichokes.—S. C. New Florence, Pa., writes: "Will it pay to raise artichokes for hogs? Where can I get the seed? When and how should they be planted?"

REPLY:—Many swine raisers have found it profitable to grow artichokes. You run no risk in planting an experimental patch. You can get tubers of the seedsmen. Plant them about as you would potatoes.

Plants Damping Off.—D. L. M., Mt. Pleasant, Wash., writes: "This spring and last our tomatoes planted in boxes have not done well. When about one or one and a half inches high, the stalks have shriveled and rotted away at the surface of the ground."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—The plants were affected by the "damping off" disease. Avoid overwatering, excessive heat and over-rich soil. You might also try watering the soil, before planting, with a one-per-cent solution of copper sulphate.

Keeping Egg-plants and Sweet Potatoes.—J. W. C., California, writes: "1. Is there any way of keeping egg-plant fruit after picked from the vines, for winter use? If so, how, and how long will they keep? 2. What is the best way for keeping sweet potatoes?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—1. The only way that egg-plants might be kept for winter use, that I know of, is in cold storage; that is, in buildings expressly constructed for keeping perishable crops, and kept at a uniform temperature of thirty-five to forty degrees Fahrenheit. 2. We have given methods of keeping sweet potatoes repeatedly, and shall probably give them again in proper season.

Alfalfa.—L. M. D., Nevada, Mo., writes: "Will alfalfa do well in this latitude? When should it be sown, spring or fall? Should it be sown alone?"

REPLY:—Alfalfa does well in your latitude on suitable soil. It requires a deep, porous subsoil. It does not thrive on land with hard, compact subsoil. It is best to sow it alone in the spring, a couple of weeks before corn-planting time. Prepare the ground as for oats, only finer, with a firm seed-bed. Sow at the rate of fifteen to twenty pounds of good, clean seed per acre. When the plants are about a foot high, mow off and remove weeds and all. By the second or third mowing the alfalfa will have full possession.

Starting Celery from Seed.—T. H. P., Oregon, Mo., writes: "How can I start celery from seed? I sowed some last year in a hot-bed, and did not get a plant."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Try it in open ground for the main crop. Be sure to have good seed. Pascal (or Giant Pascal) is a good variety. Have a rich piece of ground, and make a perfect seed-bed. Then draw a shallow mark for the row, and thinly scatter the seed by hand. Next draw a garden-rake lengthwise over the furrow, and finally firm the ground over the seed by walking the row heel-to-toe fashion. In ten days or two weeks the plants will begin to break ground. A little shade provided by screens or other means will be a good thing, but is not absolutely necessary.

Planting Potatoes.—J. W., Oregon, writes: "Can I expect a good crop by dropping potatoes in the furrow and covering with the plow on a clover sod? If so, how tall should the clover be, and how deep should I plow? Our summers, as a rule, are dry."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—This is a very primitive method, and was once used quite commonly in some parts of Europe; perhaps is yet. Under favorable conditions you might grow a fair crop; but at present I think we must employ more skillful and thorough methods in potato growing, if we wish to make sure of raising a crop. If I have a young clover sod to plant potatoes on, I plow the ground when it is time to plant, irrespective of how high the clover may be at the time. Plow about eight inches deep.

Salting Butter.—M. E. W., Pequea, Pa., writes: "Should butter be salted immediately after taking it out of the churn?"

REPLY:—Yes. Stop churning as soon as the butter is in granular form the size of grains of wheat. Draw off the buttermilk. Pour into the churn enough cold brine to well cover the butter and churn gently for a minute. Draw off the brine, and repeat till the water runs off the butter clear. If the washing has been properly done, the butter will look like yellow wheat and be perfectly free from buttermilk. Remove it from the churn to the butter-worker or tray. Then sift over and stir lightly into it pure, fine dairy salt, from one half to one ounce of salt to a pound of butter, according to taste. When the salt is thoroughly mixed, work the butter just enough to make it a solid lump of even texture throughout. Finally, form it into rolls or prints or press into packages, as desired.

Fertilizing Materials.—T. B. H., Alameda, N. Y., writes: "Commercial fertilizers are beyond our reach these times. Can't you tell us of a fertilizer which we can afford to use? I am not much posted, and would like to know what is kainite, and nitrate of soda, and sulphate of soda or iron, etc. Can I buy these in their crude state and apply them with profit?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—This question is one of the great problems before the farmer, but he will not be able to solve it, unless he studies the nature of these fertilizing substances and the requirements of his soil. The FARM AND FIRESIDE, some years ago, gave a series of articles on the principles of the chemistry of soil and fertilizing substances, and has brought occasional articles on the same subjects right along. I cannot again treat this subject in all its details as before, and the reader will have to get this fundamental knowledge out of the several books on the subject published in recent years. In some cases the farmer can get very good results by the use of simple, unmixed and cheap plant-foods, as, for instance, of dissolved South California rock, or of Thomas (basic) slag, etc., for his grain crops on soils that have been made to produce grain crops for a number of years, or of the cheaper forms of potash, for fruit and some vegetable crops, etc. But to understand this fully will require some study of the underlying principles, and some good judgment.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.
Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio. NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Peritonitis.—M. E. S., Wilmington, Ohio. Your colt died of peritonitis.

Ringworm.—L. G. B., Rutherford, Tenn. Please consult recent numbers of FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Wind-galls.—W. M., Appenzell, Pa. Wind-galls on the pastern-joint of a mare eighteen years old are best left alone. You cannot make an old animal young again.

A Hard Milker.—T. L. T., Streator, Ill. If your cow is hard to milk, vigorous milking will, in course of time, effect some improvement. There is no other remedy.

Horns Growing Into the Head.—L. M., Torpedo, Pa. If the horns of your sheep buck grow too crooked and too long, and threaten to grow into the head, saw off an end of each of them.

Lousy Horses.—N. L. McC., Rataha City, Wash. Brush and groom your horses once a day, and then send them to pasture as soon as circumstances permit. If that does not remove the lice, give them a good wash with a five-per-cent solution of creoline (Pearson's).

Tympanitis.—W. M., East Campbell, N. Y. If your cow becomes bloated, you must have fed something that has a tendency to ferment—maybe your timothy hay is spoiled, and is not as good as you think it is, or else the straw that was fed was decayed, or is difficult of digestion. Change the food, or better, send the cow to pasture.

Wool-eating Lamb.—L. M., Torpedo, Pa. Wool-eating in sheep is caused by a defective diet. Change food, and, if possible, remove your flock to another place. If this cannot be done, give a subcutaneous injection of muriate of apomorphine once a day for three or four successive days. The dose is from one and a half to three grains, to be dissolved in distilled water.

A Hind Knee Gall.—F. R., Campbell, N. Y. What you complain of seems to be a hind knee gall. Such a gall usually yields to treatment when fresh, but when old—in your colt the same, you say, has been there a year—all efforts, as a rule, are in vain. There is fluid, but neither pus nor wind inside. If you desire to have it treated, consult a veterinarian. It is impossible to get an idea of the exact condition of the joint from your description.

Retention of Afterbirth.—N. L. McC., Rataha City, Wash. A retention of the afterbirth in cows is most frequent if the birth of the calf is a premature one. If cows are well kept in every particular, and especially if they have enough voluntary exercise, and are not confined for any length of time in the stable, there will be less trouble. Other means of prevention are not known, and very likely do not exist.

Pumiced Feet.—J. M. P., Lenoir, N. C. If your horse was foundered (had laminitis) last fall, and now has pumiced hoofs, a restoration of the feet to a normal condition is impossible. You can, however, considerably ease the animal, if you have the same shod with good bar-shoes, well fitted to the hoofs, and sufficiently concave on the upper surface inside of the nail-holes, so that the same do not press upon the very tender sole, and then use the animal exclusively on the farm, and not on hard roads and paved streets.

Scratches.—G. G. M., McConnellsville, Ohio. Scratches is not a constitutional disease. It is caused, in the first place, by too much wet, mud and filth, and insufficient grooming and cleaning. If invertebrate, of course, the lymphatics will become affected. Keep your mare's legs and feet clean, but do not clean them with water, and make, three times a day, liberal applications of a mixture composed of liquid salicylate of lead, one part, and olive-oil, three parts. If the skin has become badly degenerated, consult a competent veterinarian.

Collar-boil.—D. W. S., Tiger, Ohio, writes: "I have a work-mare which during the winter got a hard callous on the shoulder, about midway between top of neck and lower part of shoulder. Lately the scab came off the callous, leaving an opening the size of a cent. It resembles a collar-boil."

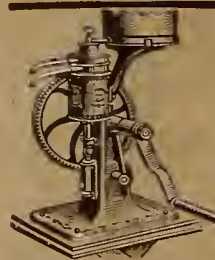
ANSWER:—What you complain of is a collar-boil, which may require a surgical operation. You say the collar fits well. That may be, but wherever swelling or soreness exists, there the collar should not come even in contact with the skin. Call on a good veterinarian to remove the collar-boil by a surgical operation, if necessary, or otherwise if possible, and then, until everything has healed, procure and use a breast-collar.

Paresis of a Cow After Calving.—G. W. S., Bridgeton, R. I. Paralysis in the hind quarters, or paresis of cows immediately after calving, is usually due to a bruising of the cranial nerve, which in some cows, it seems, is not well enough protected, and apt to be bruised, especially if the birth of the calf is not an easy one. The effect of the bruising, and consequently the paralysis, usually disappears in a few days. All that is necessary is to see to it that the cow, while down, does not get sore, and suffer from decubitus. An abundance of good, clean and dry bedding, and a frequent change of the position of the cow from one side to the other, will prevent it. The swelling you complain of is best prevented from becoming serious, if the cow has sufficient voluntary exercise before calving, and is not fed with too great quantities of voluminous food.

Trouble with a Cow's Udder.—A. P., Milan, N. H., writes: "1. I have a valuable cow, four years old, which has always been healthy, but recently one of her teats has been obstructed. 2. I used a milking-tube for a time, but soreness increased, and I was obliged to discontinue it, but could find no cause for soreness. 3. She will be fresh in about seven months. Will the milk come into it at that time? 4. Do you know of anything that could now be done or anything that could have been done?"

ANSWER:—1. You do not state what kind of an obstruction it is, but any obstruction that cannot be removed by vigorous milking, is not very likely removed by any other means. 2. Milking-tubes are very dangerous things. Their use invariably will cause soreness and inflammation, unless before every insertion

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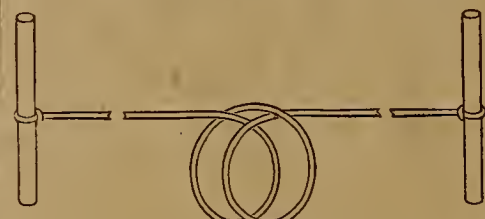
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the milking-tube is carefully sterilized; and even then a milking-tube does not accomplish what is expected of it—that is, drain the udder and prevent an accumulation and coagulation of the milk. 3. It is probable, unless the affected quarter has become degenerated, that milk will reappear when the cow calves, but great care must be taken that the milk is milked out at each milking, and for the first week or two the cow must be milked several times a day. 4. I don't see that you can do anything now if the quarter has become dry. If it has not, you have to continue milking, or else make the quarter dry by making external applications of an ointment composed of gum camphor and soft soap.

Wart.—A. P., Leeland, Va., writes: "I have a mare, three years old, with a wart under her belly shaped very much like a wasp's nest; that is, it is about three inches in diameter, but where it is connected to her body it is about the size of one's finger. I have been told that it may be removed by tying something around very tight. Please tell me how it may be removed."

ANSWER:—Procure a good waxed end, not less than five feet long, from a shoemaker, tie to each end a short stick so as to make a good handle, make in the middle of the waxed end a double noose, pass the same over the wart and around its neck, then above it (the noose) as close to the body of the animal as possible, then let two persons take hold of the sticks



DOUBLE NOOSE.

tied to the ends of the waxed end, one on each side of the horse, and pull and draw the double noose as tight as they can. This done, the waxed end may be cut on both sides, leaving the ends attached to the wart five or six inches long, or long enough to knot the ends together if more pulling should be necessary. Another good way is to slip a rubber band around the neck of the wart. The only difficulty is to get a rubber band that is sufficiently strong, and small enough, also, to apply it close enough to the body of the animal. That the latter must be properly secured while the operation is performed is self-evident.

Garget.—H. H. Burgess, Cal., J. C., Speers, Pa., and R. D., Lancaster, Ill. Garget, in a very large majority of cases at least, is caused by negligent, irregular, or not sufficiently frequent milking, and a subsequent invasion of fermentation-producing bacteria in the milk shut up in the udder. The first effect is a changing of the sugar of milk into lactic acid; the second a precipitation of the casein out of its solution; then the coagulated casein, infected by bacteria, acts like a foreign body, and the new milk, as soon as produced, coming in contact with the coagulated casein, and thus becoming infected, will undergo the same changes. Hence, the morbid process (constant irritation and inflammation) will continue until the cause, the bacteria, together with all the coagulated casein, have been removed. This can be done only by frequent and thorough milking, as has been so often explained in these columns. If the morbid process has too far progressed, indurations (hard swellings) and loss of the affected quarter will be the consequence. In other cases, in which together with the fermentation-producing bacteria have found an entrance, abscesses will be formed. Such abscesses, unless the pus can be milked out, must be lanced at the lowest point, and then, after the pus has been discharged, must receive, twice a day, an antiseptic dressing. Absorbent cotton saturated with a two-per-cent solution of carbolic acid will answer. All external applications in cases of garget are not only useless, because they cannot remove the cause, but, as a rule, absolutely injurious, unless it be the object of the treatment to stop the production of milk in the affected quarter. In that case, a salve composed of gum camphor and soft soap may be applied to the skin of the diseased quarter. In very severe cases of garget, cases combined with high fever, a good veterinarian should be called at once, because in such cases any advice from a distance will come too late. Tuberculosis in the mammary glands also causes more or less swelling in the udder, and also produces a change in the quality of the milk, but the latter does not clot in the udder, and the cows do not show so much pain. Of course, it is incurable, and makes the milk, even if it is yet of good appearance, under all circumstances unfit for use. A good milk cow, especially while fresh, should be milked oftener than twice a day. If it were done, garget would be less frequent.



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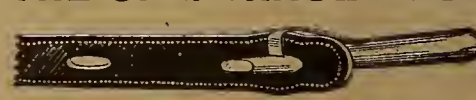
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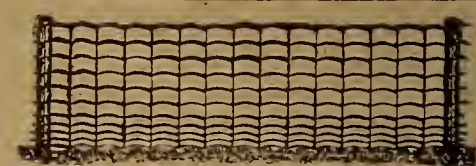
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Smiles.

A GREAT MAN.

"How big was Alexander, pa?"
 "My son, they really say
 That he could overlook the hat
 Your ma wears to the play."
 —Washington Star.

LAND OF DEPARTED FAVORITES.

Somewhere in the unknown space
 Where cast-off worldlings land,
 Two hungry shapes met face to face
 And bade each other stand.

"Hold!" cried one, "how came you here?
 What right have you to be
 Comrade of 'Annie Rooney,' dear,
 Of 'Daisy' or 'Sweet Marie?'"

"Cease," cried the visitant, agap,
 "Nor dare dispute my claim:
 Make room, you faded, ancient shape,
 For Trilby is my name."
 —Chicago Record.

TAUGHT A NEW WAY:

A YOUNG couple from New York borrowed a farm for a week not long ago. Some friends, who own a little place in Cherry Valley, were going away for a visit, and they proposed that the young New York couple should look up their flat, bring their servant with them, and enjoy the snap of an early winter month in the country.

They went.
 They knew more now than they did then.
 The owners of the farm stayed for a day and showed them about, and the departing host showed his successor a very tricky way of killing a turkey. Instead of chopping its head off, or wringing it in the old-fashioned way, he took it by the feet and snapped its head lightly against a stone, as though it had been a whip. The spinal column was neatly broken without any of the struggles and agonies usually attendant upon the death of a fowl.

The farmer forgot and locked up all his chickens, taking the key with him. Only one turkey gobbler was left at large.

That night the city man took him by the feet and snapped his head against a stone. Then he took him to the cook, and told her to give him a dry pluck and let him lie in the ice-box until morning. The next morning screams of terror awoke the visitors. They sprang out of bed and ran into the hall.

The cook, praying to all the saints, was stumbling up the stairs. Stalking majestically after her came the "ghost" of the gobbler, without a feather on him. He had only been stunned, and when the cook lifted the ice-box lid in the morning, he had arisen in his nakedness and gobbled in her face.—New York Herald.

DISCIPLINE.

Captain Bliss was, like all seamen, a strict disciplinarian, and his crew respected him beyond measure. Not one of them would have dreamed of interpreting a command otherwise than according to the strict letter of the law; things must be done "shipshape" under his rule.

One day, while the ship was in a certain small port, the captain gave a dinner to some town acquaintances, and as the resources of the ship were not great, some of the sailors were deputed to wait on the table, to reinforce the insufficient number of stewards.

As these men were not used to such work, each one was told exactly what service would fall to his share.

The hour came, and the dinner went merrily on. Presently, however, one of the ladies wanted a piece of bread. There was none very near her, and the finely disciplined stewards seemed to be quite oblivious to her need. She turned her head and spoke very softly to the man at her elbow.

"Bread, please," she said.
 He looked regretfully at the bread, and then at her. It was evident that he would fain have helped her if it had been in his power. He saluted in fine naval style.

"Can't do it, ma'am," said he. "I'm told off for 'taters!'"—Youth's Companion.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

A MATTER OF CLASSIFICATION.

Minister (entering country editor's office)—
 "You promised to publish that sermon I sent you on Monday, but I do not find it in the paper."

Editor—"I sent it up; it surely went in. What was the name of it?"

Parson—"Feed My Lambs."

Editor (after searching through the paper)—
 "Ah—yes—um—here it is. You see, we've got a new foreman, and he put it under the head of 'Agricultural Notes,' as 'Hints on the Care of Sheep.'"

ALL THE SAME.

It is related of the Duchess of Westminster that she put into her guest-chamber a curious Swiss clock, to which was attached a printed notice, "Please do not touch."

When Mr. Joly, the Canadian Liberal, visited Her Grace, he ventured to inquire the reason for the prohibition.

"You are the twentieth man who has asked that question," replied the lady, gleefully. "Women, you know, are supposed to be proverbially curious, and I put that placard on the clock to test the same weakness in men, and I am happy to say I find them not a whit less curious than women. I keep a list of all the gentlemen who have asked me the question you have just put, and there has been only one exception among all my guests who have occupied the room, and that was Mr. Fawcett, the late postmaster-general, and he, poor man, was blind."

NO JOUQUING APHAIR.

The Telegraph Age tells how a telegraph editor in a Boston newspaper office wrote a note of remonstrance to the telegraph operator because the latter, in his copy, had entirely omitted the letters "f" and "k" where they should have appeared. The operator replied to this note as follows:

"Mr. Editor:—Mistakes are liable to happen in the best of regulated families, and to typewriters as well. It is indeed a very unfortunate affair, but the 'eph' and 'cay' pbell out and are lost. This morning I called at the office of the gentleman from whom I rent this outfit, but pbailed to phind him in. In phact, the 'orphice cid' says be will not return pbor pbour or phive days. I do not llike the loox ov this variety ov spelling myselph, but will get the specials aphter a phashion. I myselph consider this no jouque, but a serious apbair. Phalthphully yours, J. Logan."

IN THE GREATEST STATE.

"Please, sir," said the bell-boy to a Texas hotel clerk, "No. 40 says there ain't no towel in his room."

"Tell him to use one of the window-curtains."

"He says, too, there ain't no pillers."

"Tell him to put his coat and vest under his head."

"And he wants a pitcher of water."

"Suffering Cyrus! But he's the worst kicker I ever struck in my life. Carry him up the horse-pail."

"He wants to know if he can have a light."

"Here, confound him, give him this lantern, and ask him if he wants the earth, and if he'll have it fried only on one side or turned over."

—Texas Siftings.

SUPPOSE IT DOES COST ONE DOLLAR? Don't be "pennywise and pound foolish" through taking for your cough, medicine that you know nothing about, when one of long established reputation and proven quality like Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant can be had.

AT THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICE.

Mrs. De Peyster (engaging a servant)—"What nationality are you, Norah?"

Norah—"Sure, O'm an American, mum."

Mrs. De P.—"What kind of American?"

Norah—"Faith and Oi guess you'd call me an Irish-American."

Mrs. De P.—"Then you will not suit me, as I want a pure American."

Norah—"Oi didn't know there were any, mum."

Mrs. De P. (haughtily)—"I am one."

Norah—"Oh, it's beggin' your pardon Oi am! but Oi never should have thought it; yez don't look a bit like an Indian, mum."

Puck.

Every Man Should Read This.

If any young, old, or middle-aged man, suffering from nervous debility, lack of vigor or weakness from errors or excesses, will in close stamp to me, I will send him the prescription of a genuine, certain cure, free of cost, no humbug, no deception. It is cheap, simple and perfectly safe and harmless. I will send you the correct prescription and you can buy the remedy of me or prepare it yourself, just as you choose. The prescription I send free, just as I agree to do. Address, E. H. HUNGERFORD, Box A, 232, Albion, Mich.

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No. 3.—"Whad yo' mean, yo' fool niggah! Puttin' yo' haid right under dat nice new ax an' sp'illin' it dat way."

FITS CURED

(From U. S. Journal of Medicine.)

Prof. W. H. PEEKE, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician, his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their P. O. and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address, Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York.

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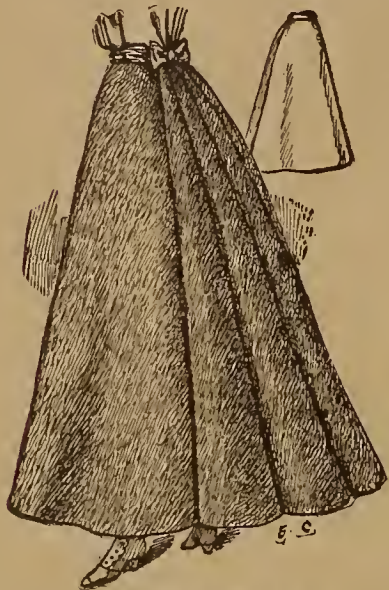
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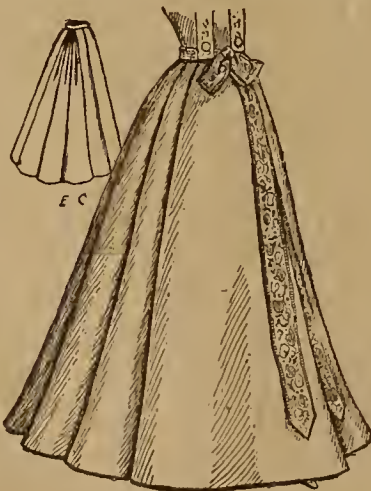
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We receive many orders for patterns without any name or post-office address signed, hence we cannot fill the orders. If any of our readers have not received their patterns, and will write us a letter giving the full particulars so we can verify their order, we will be glad to look them up and fill them immediately.

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I am perfectly charmed with your patterns.
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I think your patterns far superior to any I have ever used. Am delighted with them, and so are my neighbors.
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No. 6388.—LADIES' BLOUSE WAIST.
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No. 6373.—LADIES' CAPE.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.
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No. 6352.—LADIES' MATERNITY JACKET.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

I received my patterns all O. K., and am greatly pleased with them. Please accept my thanks.
MRS. A. A. GOODSSELL, Jasper, Mich.

I like your patterns very much. They seem like a Godsend to poor people.
MRS. S. W. CRAWFORD, Jefferson, Ohio.

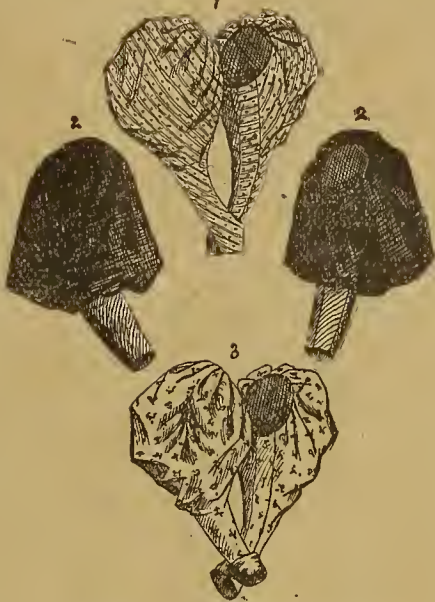
Your patterns are a great attraction. It is an inducement to take the paper for them alone.
LUCINDA SIGLER, Manchester, Tenn.

I have found your patterns the most satisfactory of any I've ever tried.
MRS. L. R. LAUREN, Topinabee, Mich.

I find your patterns to be up to the standard. I have used a great many of them, and find that they give a perfect fit. The best for the money on the market.
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No. 6407.—LADIES' GODET SKIRT.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure.
Regular price, 30 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



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Sizes, 32, 36 and 40 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 30c.; all three to you for 11c.



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Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

No. 6347.—SAME PATTERN—MISSSES' SIZE.
Sizes, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches breast measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

I am well pleased with the pattern that I received from you. Please send me another.
LUCIA FRICK, Jackson, Mo.

Thanks for the pattern I sent for. It gave perfect satisfaction.
MRS. S. E. HIATT, Talala, Ind. Ty.

I wish to thank you for the patterns which I have received, as I think them excellent, and equal in all respects to the ones we have paid 30 cents and 40 cents for in the stores.
MRS. F. FIELDER,
192 Grove St., Worcester, Mass.



No. 6356.—LADIES' YOKE WAIST.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

No. 6361.—SAME PATTERN—MISSSES' SIZE.
Sizes, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches breast measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6366.—BOYS' FAUNTLEROY SUIT.
Sizes, 20, 22 and 24 inches breast measure.
Regular price, 30 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



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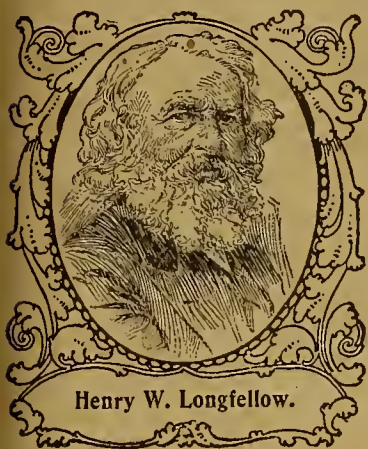
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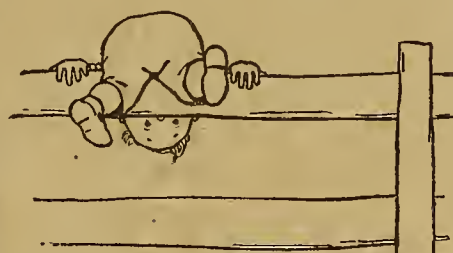
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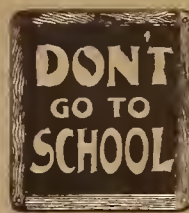
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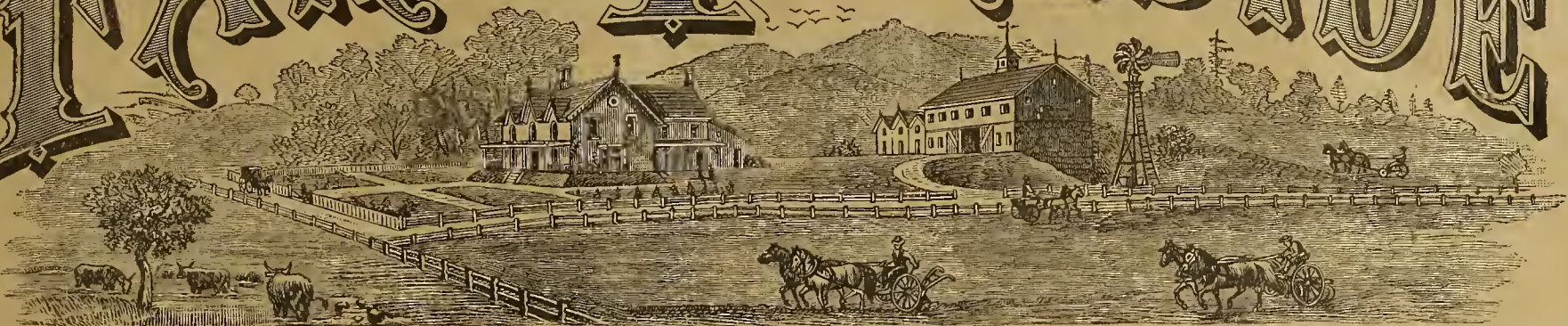
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VOL. XVIII. NO. 16.

MAY 15, 1895.

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WITH THE VANGUARD

THIS is that season of the year when nature is cleaning house and spreading broadcast beneath trees beautifully decorated with foliage, her carpets of green velvet. We may sometimes feel discontented with our lot, but it is never at this time of year. The very air is redolent with the flavor of apple-blossoms. No artist can improve on the picturesque landscapes which we may look out upon at any time, tinted as they are by that old artist-king, the sun.

How much, after all, there is in this world to cheer, comfort and brighten our lives! From now until the chill of winter's blast comes again, the poorest man in the country is rich, if he will be. He can breathe the pure air and bask in the warm sunlight; he can have enough of the fullness of the earth to satisfy his wants, and that is more than most people in the city can have.

It is anticipating a little, but it will bear quoting, anyway. James Whitcomb Riley says, in one of his poems, something that has been a great comfort to many:

Then let us, one and all, be contented with our lot;
The June is here this morning, and the sun is shinin' hot.
Oh! let us fill our hearts up with the glory of the day,
And banish ev'ry doubt and care and sorrow far away!
Whatever be our station, with Providence for guide,
Such fine circumstances ort to make us satisfied;
For the world is full of roses, and the roses full of dew,
And the dew is full of heavenly love that drips for me and you.

Let us look on the bright side and catch every smile as the flower catches the rays of sunlight. Oh that every laugh might prove contagious until we all shake our sides together! Our growling and grumbling is nearly always out of place. It is

not only needless, but there is absolutely no excuse for it. We ought to be ashamed of ourselves—and we are.

We are all the time saying, or thinking, if we just had something that we haven't got, we would be perfectly happy. If we just made a little more money, we would save some; if we just had an extra suit of clothes, we would keep it nice. Don't you believe it! There is a very rich man in Chicago. He said that the first year he went to that city he only earned \$600, and he had a wife and two children to support. He saved \$100 out of the \$600. "If," he continued, "the young man who only makes three or five dollars a week does not save a part of his wages, then he would not save anything if he earned twenty dollars a week." Stick to your work, and go about it cheerfully. A good temper acts on our nature and the natures of those about us like oil on the axle of our buggy. We will never get a hot box if we are always sweet-tempered.

Then the world will look so much brighter; yes, it *will* be brighter. Another thing, let us stick to the farm. Off there in the city it is not all smooth sailing. City life sometimes appears as attractive as a mirage in the desert; it proves almost as often as sad a delusion. The young men in the city are to be pitied, most of them. Pinched faces, flimsy moccasins, poor digestion, disappointment on every hand, this is the lot of a large majority of the young men who leave the good, dear old homestead to seek a fortune in the city—a fortune that is as hard to get into your hands as the end of the rainbow.

We love the country. God made it, but men have built the cities. These are our busy days. We must be up with the lark, and put in every hour, but as we work we are favored by the breezes, we breathe the odor of the wild flowers or the blossoms of trees, while the sunlight streams all about us, putting new life into everything it touches—that sunlight which is like God's smile.

THE following table of prices, wages and purchasing power of wages in the United States is republished from a previous number for the special purpose of showing the effect of a depreciated currency on the earnings of labor:

	1845.	1850.	1855.	1860.	1865.	1870.	1875.	1880.	1885.	1890.
Av. prices of all commodities	102.8	102.3	143.1	100	216.8	142.3	127.6	106.9	93	92.3
Average of all wages.....	86.8	92.7	98	100	143.1	162.2	158.4	141.5	150.7	158.9
Purchasing power of wages..	84.4	90.6	86.6	100	66	114.1	124.1	132.3	162	172.1
Gold price of silver bullion..	95.3	97.3	100	100	99	98.2	92.2	84.7	78.7	77.4
Paper money.....	100	100	100	100	49.5	81.1	88.8	100	100	100

In this table the computations and comparisons are made on the unit of 100 in 1860. The prices and wages given for 1865, 1870 and 1875 are in depreciated and fluctuating paper; for all other years, in specie.

From 1860, the average price of 223 articles changed from the unit of 100 in specie to 216.8 in paper depreciated from par to 49.5. From 1860 to 1865, wages changed from 100 in specie to 143.1 in paper depreciated over one half. The nominal increase in wages did not equal the nominal in-

crease in prices; therefore, there was an actual decrease in the real earnings of labor. As shown in the table, the purchasing power of wages declined from the unit of 100 in 1860 to 66 in 1865. Although there was a nominal increase in wages of 43.1 per cent, there was an actual decrease in their purchasing power of 34 per cent.

Prices of commodities are adjusted quickly, almost instantaneously, to correspond with the depreciation of the currency; the wages of labor are adjusted slowly, to the great impairment of their purchasing power. As the currency depreciates, the prices of commodities nominally rise rapidly to the full limit of what they would be with paper at par, but the nominal rise in wages is so much slower that their purchasing power is impaired for a long period of time.

By 1870, wages had more than recovered their purchasing power, compared with 1860, and steadily increased onward through 1890. A careful examination of the table will show that the rise in the purchasing power of wages from 1870 was due partly to the appreciation of the currency shown by the figures given on paper money; also, that from 1880 to 1890, the rise in the purchasing power of wages was due largely to the actual decline in the average prices of commodities. From 1860 to 1890, wages, in specie, increased from the unit of 100 to 158.9; and the purchasing power of wages, the real earnings of labor, increased from 100 to 172.1, the highest point recorded.

From its bearing on one of the most important questions of the time, it is interesting to note the comparison between wages and silver. From the unit of 100 in 1860, wages increased to 158.9 in 1890, payable in gold or in paper, or silver, at par with gold. From 100 in 1860, the gold price of silver bullion fell to 77.4 in 1890. Therefore, in 1890, with wages at 158.9 and silver 77.4, a day's labor exchanged for more than twice the amount of silver bullion that it exchanged for in 1860. Or, conversely, an ounce of silver bullion purchased less than half the quantity of labor in 1890 that it purchased in 1860. Considering that money is exchanged for labor more than for any other one thing, the relation between the silver question and labor questions stands out in bold relief. The money question of the day is a labor question. Will the his-

tory of 1860-1865 in depreciated currency and reduced earnings of labor be repeated?

Undoubtedly, the decline in the value of silver has given the cotton planters and wheat growers, and all other employers of labor in the silver standard countries, a great advantage over their competitors in the United States. It is also a cause of great alarm for the future among the manufacturers in Europe. Note the cotton-mills springing up in India, China and Japan. The real reason of this advantage

is not generally well understood. The depreciation of the value of the currency used in the silver standard countries of the world, labor there became cheap and cheaper.

The following from a recent work on money question clearly explains the situation: "The decline in silver is most injurious to the United States: * * * Because our principal exports are wheat, cotton, which have to be sold in competition with India and other countries whose currency is silver, and where wages and the prices of commodities used by laborers remain substantially as they have been for many years. Cotton and wheat are sold in England at gold prices for pounds sterling, and thus the world's price is determined. For a pound sterling which a planter in India receives for cotton or wheat sent to England, he can now employ twice as many native laborers as he could a few years ago for their wages remain the same in silver [namely, one quarter of a silver rupee per day [6 cents]."

The decline in the value of silver bullion gives the employer of labor increased profits in products exported, but it impairs the purchasing power of the employee's wages when applied to goods imported from gold standard countries. This condition presents a strong argument for such money use of silver in Europe and the United States as will raise its bullion value. One way of equalizing conditions between gold standard and silver standard countries is by reducing the wages of labor in the former. This can be done more readily, if done indirectly by lowering the money standard.

Hence, some employers of labor, manufacturers in Europe especially, and planters in the United States, are now zealously advocating not true bimetallism, but silver monometallism, with the specific object in view of reducing the labor cost of their products. The change to the silver standard would inevitably cut the real wages of labor in half, the nominal wages remaining the same, but paid in a depreciated currency. The nominal prices of commodities would almost instantaneously double, but wages would be readjusted to correspond with prices only after a long struggle.

There are conclusive reasons for the full use of both silver and gold by all the nations of the world. But there are no true reasons for the resumption of free silver coinage by any one of the leading commercial nations alone, or even by all together under international agreement, on any terms that will impair, even temporarily, the purchasing power of wages. Many beneficial changes might be made, and ought to be made, in the diverse monetary systems of the world. But no change should be made in the monetary system of any nation that will reduce the earnings of labor. Upon them depends the well-being of society.

MR. JOHN MURRAY, the London publisher, in a late article on "Some Authors I Have Known," takes occasion to remark "that whatever young authors may think, a publisher cannot make the success of a book," and concludes with some interesting reminiscences. He says that "Charles Darwin was convinced that his 'Monograph on Earthworms' would be a failure; whereas, it reached a fifth edition in three months."

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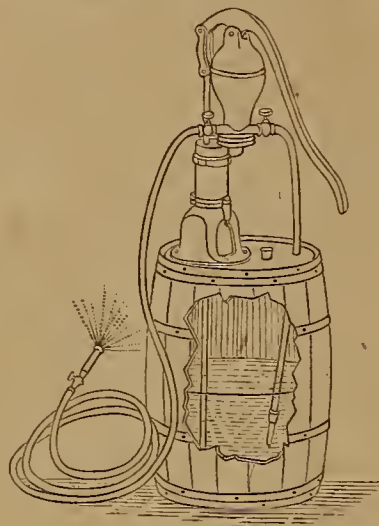
Crimson Clover. Ice and snow covering the ground continuously for weeks, with extreme cold weather the latter part of winter, made a severe test of the hardiness of crimson clover. In many instances this test was more than it could endure. But under the same conditions, red clover and considerable winter wheat were also killed. From reports received and observations made by the writer, the conclusion reached is that crimson clover is about as hardy as red clover. Many fields and experimental patches of crimson clover in northern states passed through the winter safely. On well-drained or rolling ground crimson clover escaped the ice test, and was not injured by a temperature of twenty degrees below zero.

"Alfalfa; How and Where to Grow It." is the title of a pamphlet by Charles W. Irish, chief of irrigation inquiry, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. It is published for free distribution, and can be obtained on application. Many experiments with alfalfa in the East have not succeeded because unsuitable soil was selected. Mr. Irish says: "Alfalfa will grow upon lands which have underneath their surface a sufficient water supply for the support of the plant at distances varying from six feet to thirty-five, and even at a greater distance than that below the surface. It has not been known to thrive where the water was nearer the surface than six feet. The kind of land upon which it will grow the best is an open, porous soil, with no hardpan existing down to the underground water supply. Daup clays, or clays containing gravel and sand are very favorable to its growth. It will not do well on bottom lands which are subject to overflow. It is best, if the lands are along a stream, to select what is called the second bottoms for sowing. The only chance for failure after selecting the proper land for it will be in getting a 'start.'"

Cheap Spraying Outfit. Secretary Morton gives the following description of a cheap orchard-spraying apparatus:

"Spraying to control various insect pests, particularly those of the orchard and garden, has reached so satisfactory and inexpensive a basis that it is recognized by every progressive farmer as a necessary feature of the year's operations, and in the case of the apple, pear and plum crops, the

omission of such treatment means serious loss. The consequent demand for spraying apparatus has been met by all the leading pump manufacturers of this country, and ready-fitted apparatus, consisting of pump, spray tank or barrel, and nozzle with hose, are on the market in numerous styles, and at prices ranging from \$20 upward. The cost of a spraying outfit for orchard work may, however, be considerably reduced by purchasing merely the pump and fixtures and mounting them at home on a strong barrel. An apparatus of this sort, representing a style that has proven very satisfactory in practical experience, is illustrated in the accompanying figure. It is merely a strong pump, with an air-chamber to give a steady stream, provided with two discharge hose pipes. One of these enters the barrel and keeps the water agitated and the poison thoroughly internixed, and the other and longer one is the spraying-hose and terminates in the nozzle. The spraying-hose should be about twenty feet long, and may be fastened to a light pole, preferably of bamboo, to assist in directing the spray. The nozzle should be capable of breaking



the water up into a fine mist spray, so as to wet the plant completely with the least possible expenditure of liquid. The two most satisfactory nozzles are those of the Nixon and the Vermorel type. A suitable pump, with nozzle and hose, may be obtained of any pump manufacturer or hardware dealer at a cost of from \$13 to \$15. If one with brass fittings be secured, it will also serve for the application of fungicides. The outfit outlined above may be mounted on a cart or wagon, the additional elevation secured in this way facilitating the spraying of trees; or for more extended operations, the pump may be mounted on a large water-tank."

Kansas Agriculture. Accompanying a copy of the ninth biennial report of the Kansas state board of agriculture, covering the years 1893-94, is the following letter from Secretary F. D. Coburn, Topeka, Kansas:

"The biennial period to which this report relates has been, for Kansas, one of less than usual prosperity. This has been due not alone to the two unfavorable crop seasons that in succession have been common to so many portions of the Union, but also to the general depression existent in business throughout the world. Yet, in spite of so many extraordinarily adverse conditions, Kansas, as a whole, has not failed in the production of tremendous quantities of the great staples, which conduce to comfort and prosperity at home and command gold in the markets of the world. This is shown in detail by counties, giving the various products and their values.

"A state evolved within a third of a century from a wilderness, that in the two most unpropitious years of her history, as to both agriculture and financial conditions, produces from her soil the necessities and luxuries of life to the extent of \$236,000,000, has small occasion to feel humiliated; but on the other hand, has demonstrated, once and for all, the tremendous resources of her soil and people.

"Shortage of crops in various portions of the state the past two years, from lack of seasonable rainfall, has caused the question of irrigation and the extent of the available water supply and its possibilities to be much studied, many having gone actively to work to develop them through individual enterprise, and with results thus far eminently satisfactory and encouraging. The ascertainment and utilization of the underground waters; a judicious catchment, conservation and use of the storm waters, heretofore so largely wasted;

the deeper, more thorough breaking up of compacted, impervious subsoils; a better understanding of crops best adapted to the different sections, along with a more thorough system of agriculture (which are now subjects of profound study), promise an increased and constantly increasing prosperity. Instead of vast ranges, sparse settlements, slipshod ranch farming, wheat kings and cattle barons, this will mean intensive farming—a commonwealth of small homes, modest competence, and communities contented because comfortable.

"The conditions which have prevailed, whatever their effects elsewhere, are to result in a revised agriculture and a new prosperity. Some of the ways and means toward these are suggested in the talismanic words, 'irrigation,' 'subsoiling,' 'alfalfa' and 'sorghum.'

"The first has so far progressed as to demonstrate the assurance of crops annually, regardless of seasonable rainfall, by fructifying with the extensive underground water supply (independent of streams) a very considerable percentage of our most fertile lands in the western portions of the state. The pumping of these waters will, in large measure, be inexpensively done, by harnessing to the work the ever-present breezes, which, shot through with sunshine, give the ideal healthful climate for all breathing things, and the choicest growths of grain, fruit and flower.

"By means of subsoiling, there will be stored in the soil, for use when most needed, much of the usually sufficient rainfall now permitted to waste itself. The wonderful plant alfalfa is proving not only one of the most reliably productive, useful and profitable field crops known, but especially adapted to the soil conditions prevailing in those sections of the state where some of the better known staple crops are not always reliably productive. A like description applies to the sorghums, and particularly some of the non-saccharine varieties known as Kafir-corn Milo maize and Jerusalem corn, which, under even severely adverse conditions, give prodigious yields of superior forage and wholesome, nutritious grain for the live stock that, in its new environment, must necessarily become highly developed, and likewise be so much of a factor in the state's material advancement.

"But a small edition of this report is printed, and those desiring a copy should remit not less than 20 cents for postage."

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

The Potato Agent. A correspondent living in this state, who has been "tree agent," "book agent," "potato agent" and agent for FARM AND FIRESIDE, takes exceptions to my remarks about the potato agents (FARM AND FIRESIDE of April 1st), but I am sure he can do so only because he has entirely misunderstood my meaning. I stated that I hate the swindling potato agents; namely, those who palm off any lot of potatoes they can get hold of, to unsuspecting farmers, as a new and valuable sort, asking a big price for an article they know to be worthless. I was moved to make the remarks complained about by an occurrence in an adjoining county. The particular agent, who came a stranger to make the farmers happy with his new and wonderful potato, was well aware of its inferiority, and the regular potato buyers and shippers of the town where this happened, offered and paid him \$20 to quit canvassing the vicinity. They did not want farmers to bring them that kind of potato in the fall in large lots, as they would have to suffer thereby as well as the farmers. The agent took the money, and then sold a great many bushels afterward. I told and again tell of it to make farmers cautious.

The Good Agent. I am by no means set against potato agents as a class. The efforts of those who are working on the improvement of varieties or methods, or on the distribution of improved varieties and knowledge of improved methods, are commendable in the highest degree. They are the agents who try to make two blades of grass or two potatoes grow where but one grew before. All honor to these men! Our complaining friend, I take it, as "potato agent" and "agent for the FARM AND FIRESIDE," belongs to that class. In a measure, I claim the honor of being a potato agent myself. At least, I have been one of the agents of distribution, for with word and advice and commendation I have

aided the distribution of improved varieties right along. My friend and myself are co-laborers in a good cause.

Testing

The incident has other lessons for our readers, however. It is not safe to plant an untried thing extensively, even on the advice of a friend, much less than on that of a stranger. Before I plant a new potato on a large scale, you may be sure I try it on a small one first. I believe in having the best. It pays to keep well informed about the newly introduced potatoes, as well as all other vegetables and fruits. But each grower must try for himself whether a new thing is adapted to his particular soil and surroundings. My plan is to plant a peck or half a peck of the new sorts which from the descriptions and recommendations seem to be promising. If the new kind is not better than our older ones, I do not plant it again. If it proves to be of especial merit, I have seed enough grown from my first purchase to give me a good start. But don't buy a ten-bushel lot of a new kind, no matter how highly recommended by the seller, at two or three times current market rates, from an entire stranger.

Propagation of

The correspondent already mentioned **New Varieties.** says he puts single eyes of high-priced new potatoes into a box to sprout them. I can see no advantage in cutting seed to single eyes when we want to get the largest number of sprouts. I now simply cut the tubers in two pieces, the flat way, and place them, cut side down, in the bench soil of the greenhouse or a hotbed, say two inches below the surface. The sprouts are "drawn" (pulled up) when about an inch high, and potted off. I do this promptly, to be sure that the sprout will not subsist on the seed tuber longer than necessary. The sprout when potted in very rich soil can stand on its own feet well enough, and it saves the energies of the seed tuber for the production of more sprouts.

I do not know whether this is the best method to accomplish the desired result or not. I don't know a better one. If any of our readers are acquainted with a superior one, or a better method of growing any other crop than we have been generally following heretofore, you may be sure I am as anxious as anybody to know of it, and to let others know of it. It is my life work to find ways and means of making farming and gardening easier, more comfortable and more profitable. The chief aim of my writings and publications is to let my readers profit by the knowledge of the latest short cuts to success. Upon the efforts of others exerted in the same direction I look with the utmost friendliness, and without a trace of jealousy or envy.

The Tramp

When a human being comes to my door asking for a bite, he or she is pretty sure to get it. I don't have the heart to drive a hungry person from my door without a little something to eat. My principle has always been that it is better to feed ten who do not deserve it than let one go hungry from your door who may be in real distress. But that is as far as I would go with tramps. I do not give them money. The chances are that the money would be spent for beer or whisky in the nearest saloon. Feeding those who ask for food is about the easiest and most convenient method of getting rid of them. It is also a sure way of continuing the tramp nuisance. It often seems that the one you feed sends half a dozen others to ask for food. But what can one do? Keep a good and savage-looking dog as watch at the front gate? Perhaps that might do, and yet I dislike to keep a dog just for such a purpose. Besides, a poor dog is a bigger nuisance on any place than all the tramps that are liable to come, and a good dog is a scarce animal. Dogs are great eaters, too. If the house stands at some distance from the nearest neighbor, and especially if the women-folks are left without a male protector at times, it may well be considered wise and judicious to keep a good dog on guard. To put a stop to the tramping of vagabonds, no better means seems to be within reach than the interference of the municipal authorities. Make the wandering fraternity break stones on the highway or otherwise serve as road-builders. This course would soon do away with the tramp nuisance, and give us better highways besides.

T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

USING THE PENCIL.

THE manufacturer or merchant who is successful in this age of small profits is a close calculator. He knows what he is doing. Farmers often say that they do not need to keep any books to know how they stand, as they can tell at the end of the year whether they have more money or less money than twelve months previous. It is true that they can come nearer telling their true financial condition than one engaged in more extensive business; but it is not satisfactory merely to know just where one stands without knowing what it is that lost him money and what paid him. All is lumped together, and he starts into another year without exact facts about the various branches of his business. I know by close observation that some farmers continue to produce crops that leave them poorer, because they do not figure closely.

It is not now my aim to make a plea for farm bookkeeping in the style often urged, but to suggest that prudence and plain common sense dictate that we use the pencil more and know what our products cost us. We do not need fancy systems of accounts, but we should go after every fact we may need in the management of our farms. Let me illustrate: Here is a farm on which an idle horse is kept merely because the market for horses is dull. Does the owner know just how much poorer he will be in a twelve-month hence by reason of keeping that horse, provided the price of horses does not change? Would a live merchant keep anything in his store that was a heavy expense, unless he knew an immediate rise in price was nearly certain? No; he would get it off his hands. He would know what the expense of holding it was, and make the price accordingly.

Can one not determine what it costs him to keep a horse a year? There is the marketable grain and hay it consumes, the value of the pasture, the interest on the market value of the animal, the annual deterioration in value and the risk of injury. Do not say these matters cannot be determined. They can be definitely enough to be made a basis for action. What will these things amount to under the conditions prevailing on the farm that is carrying that idle horse? By just so many dollars is the owner the poorer as a result of keeping it. Something else may make the loss good, and accounts balance at the end of the year. But why not save the loss and have that much money to spend in a better way than upon an unprofitable investment?

Let us take another illustration: A thin field has a very poor stand of grass, and it is the habit in such cases to break it for corn, and then seed it to wheat and timothy or clover. Will not the pencil show that the corn, and the wheat after corn, will not pay decent wages to the owner for his labor, and that the chances for a good stand of grass two years hence are poor? If a close calculation shows that the owner will probably be actually poorer as a result of taking off these two crops, and if the prospect for a stand of grass in the end is not good, why follow the plan? Use the pencil, and trust to it. Better improve the soil by a manurial crop or a summer fallow at small expense—the pencil will tell just what it will be—and help insure a stand of grass when next seeded. Facts are wanted, not loose guesswork.

If accounts were kept with separate fields, on some farms, it would not be long until some of the fields would be differently managed, or else abandoned. I believe every field should have an account kept with it, or else a calculation should be made to tell just what it is contributing to the farm income. There is nothing impracticable about this. I know fields that are an encumbrance to their owners. The product does not pay taxes after the cost of production is deducted from receipts. A man in any other business would know what the facts are. One advantage of the use of the pencil in this case is that one is stirred to more effort to get profit out of the investment in that field. When one realizes that good, hard cash is sunk in a certain line, he is led to change the condition of things.

In all farm calculations, one difficulty that presents itself to many is the valuation that should be put upon the labor of the farmer and his team. Farmers are often heard to say, "Oh, if I valued my own time, there would be no profit at all from the farm." It is not business to look at the matter from this standpoint. We cannot afford to try to figure out a profit from the farm on any false basis. We are after facts. Every farmer should determine what it costs him to keep each horse a year, and what is his annual expense for keeping up his farm machinery. To this sum must be added an amount that one is willing to accept as an equivalent for his own time and labor under the circumstances; that is, in view of his surroundings, being his own master, having cheap living and all farm luxuries at small cost. This sum must be large enough to repay him, to satisfy him that his time is reasonably well employed. When all this is determined, he can tell about what he should estimate the value per day of the labor of himself and horses, charging more against crops that make a fixed number of horses a necessity, and less against crops that are cultivated when teams would otherwise be idle.

With such an estimate for a basis, one can begin to learn where money from fields is being made and where lost. What a revelation to some if closer figuring were done! It would lead some of us to drop some crops, to use different rotations, to hunt up the little things that can be made to pay, and to put everything on a business basis. Men say that we must go ahead, whether the farm pays or not. That depends. The farm may pay if it only gives us profitable employment. If it does not, then it is only a matter of time until it must go, anyway. The fact is that there is probably some profitable crop on every farm. The pencil should be used to stop us from putting time and labor where it can only lose us money. Does any one say all this is impracticable? Try it, as the writer has done, and see that it is the only true business basis for farming.

DAVID.

ALFALFA, OR LUCERNE.

While looking about for profitable crops to grow instead of the time-honored wheat crop, let us not neglect to test alfalfa, or, as it is sometimes called, lucerne. It has long been recognized as one of the most valuable of soiling crops in many localities, and would do equally well in many others if only given the opportunity. Being a leguminous plant, it possesses the property of appropriating nitrogen from the atmosphere and storing it away for the enrichment of the soil, either through feeding the crop or by plowing it under. In localities where it thrives it excels clover in this respect; for, besides the property of entrapping plant-food from the air, it has an exceptionally long tap-root, which penetrates deep down into the subsoil, reaching plant-food and moisture beyond the reach of any other plant. I have seen roots even in central Ohio which were eight to ten feet in length, and a Kansas farmer says that he has followed them, in digging a well, twenty-eight feet. It is generally claimed the roots will penetrate to permanent moisture, so that it would depend upon the nature of the subsoil as to the depth they would go.

Besides being valuable as a fertilizer, it is a very rank grower, and may be cut three or four times in a single season. Peter Henderson, in one of his books, tells of a gentleman in Florida who kept his cow the year around on the alfalfa cut from an eighth of an acre. A Kansas farmer kept four horses, nine cows and thirty sheep an entire summer on six acres.

All kinds of stock eat it greedily, not only in its green state, but when cured for hay. They will even leave grain to eat the hay, if put up in good shape. Recent experiments made at the New York experiment station show that in a series of tests, cows fed on rations which included alfalfa produced milk, cream and butter at less cost than when fed on other rations at less cost, even than when fed on corn silage. One field on the station farm, sown to alfalfa in 1893, yielded last year, in four cuttings, at the rate of 33,800 pounds to the acre, though the last two cuttings were lighter than they should have been, because of the severe drought.

Another advantage is in the fact that it is a perennial, and when once established is good for many years. There are fields in Spain that are said to have been in alfalfa for over two hundred years. It was cultivated by the Egyptians, Greeks and Romans, and was later introduced into Europe. From Spain it was introduced into South America, thence into Mexico and California, and through this round-about way, now seeking favor at the hands of farmers in the central and eastern states.

It seems best adapted to warm, sandy soils, but has succeeded fairly well on clay soils where the subsoil is porous. The farm of the New York experiment station referred to above, is heavy clay.

The soil should be thoroughly prepared, and the seed, which is some larger than medium clover seed, and in shape resembling a bean, should be sown at the rate of fifteen to twenty pounds to the acre. It should be sown early in the spring; the earlier the better, so that the soil is in good condition. Some prefer to sow it alone; others to sow a small quantity of oats, to provide shade until the plants are well established.

I sowed, or rather, attempted to sow, a small plot in April, 1893, but owing to a defect in the seeding attachment of a new drill, which I was using for the first time, only succeeded in sowing a very small quantity of the seed, and having sown oats at the same time, did not resow it. Not wishing it to go without a grass crop, medium clover was then sown, but in a few places scattering stalks of alfalfa came up. They were occasionally noticed during the season, but did not appear to give promise of much. In June, 1894, the clover was cut. Dry weather set in, and the young clover made little growth; but the alfalfa grew as if it meant business, and by the first of August, some thirty-five days after first cutting, it was over twenty inches in height, and beginning to bloom. It was then cut, and by the last of the month, though we had not a drop of rain, it was again about twenty inches high and blooming. The fourth cutting was on the seventh or eighth of October. All through the dry weather it grew nicely, in comparison with the medium clover surrounding it.

The cows ate it as if they had never known anything half so good, and thinking it worth another effort, I sowed a strip in a young orchard, the first week in April, first getting the soil as mellow as possible, putting on commercial fertilizer at the rate of three hundred pounds to the acre (it had received stable manure at the rate of twelve loads to the acre in 1893, 1894 and 1895) and sowing the alfalfa at the rate of sixteen quarts to the acre. Though it has had but one very light shower since, it has come nicely, and if the season is favorable, I hope to secure a good stand.

JOHN L. SHAWVER.

Shady Nook Farm.

PICKED POINTERS.

"All things come to him that waits," and the sheepman did not have to wait long—only two or three years—for former lamb and mutton prices to be restored. Indeed, it has been a long time since a good fat mutton would bring what it will to-day in many parts of the country. Most farmers are curious creatures. When the price of any product depreciates, they go out of its production as a bunch of sheep over a stone wall, only to crawl back into it again at a snail's pace when it revives. One can go out of any line of business in a moment; but in any department of livestock husbandry it requires years to rebuild.

If any one has still an idea that the sheep business has "gone to the dogs," let him go out and try to purchase a flock, and such idea would be quickly dispelled. The steadfast friends of the sheep have their innings now, and it came very unexpectedly. Most farm products have their ups and downs as regards prices, and he is wise who adheres to that line which he has learned how to do well and is prepared to pursue. Wheat and cotton may be possible exceptions. No man ever stuck faithfully to one line ten years who did not make money, if he did the business wisely. Change is pernicious.

The new way of growing lambs in winter instead of spring is gaining ground. There is little doubt now that it will become general in course of time, and spring growing be left to farmers in the South, where the climate is suitable for it. It is generally known that so-called hothouse lambs have been bringing very large prices. It was expected that the hard times would shrink values some; but they were sold the past winter for \$6 to \$12. Even at the lowest price, there is more money in the business than in the old way. When a lamb at eight weeks of age will bring \$6, he must be blind who cannot see a large profit. But they have brought far more than that. As late as the first week in April, they were quoted in Boston at \$7 to \$9. They had been \$10 to \$12.

An Ohio grower, who is in this lamb business for the first time, speaking of it in a private letter and remarking about prices, says: "For my part, I like the warm stables, and think they pay, anyway. I like, too, to have no wool in the way at lambing-time and afterward." Artificial heat is not required, as some suppose. The stables are made tight, and are arranged internally in a certain manner. The sheep are shorn when put up for winter. It requires more attention to keep the animals cool enough than warm; this is done by ventilators. Newly dropped lambs cannot get chilled, and ordinarily not one is lost. I know many growers, but not one would be willing to go back to the old system. Those who think of adopting this method are reminded that now is the time to select and prepare the ewes, to fix the stables before haying, and to arrange for clover hay and either roots or ensilage.

It is strange that more northerners do not see and avail themselves of sheep opportunities in the South. It is the best climate for sheep husbandry in North America. There are about eight million sheep in the South now which have grown up literally without any particular care. They are native and hardy—can be bought for \$1.50. Cotton has ceased to pay for growing. Many planters would borrow sheep to double in four years, if they could, as they have not money to buy. A northern man to loan them money to buy with, and see that they had pure-bred males to breed up with, in four years would have double the number of sheep, and they would be worth nearly twice as much per head, on account of their better breeding. Any lively young or middle-aged man might go South, buy or rent a cheap plantation, grow hothouse lambs and ship them North, slaughtered and dressed, and leave northern-grown lambs far in the rear, so far as profit is concerned.

GALEN WILSON.

VITALITY OF WEED SEED.

Ten years or more ago, when the vitality of seeds was being discussed in *FARM AND FIRESIDE*, I gave my experience with the jimson-weed.

I said that in 1851 I took possession of a farm that was badly covered with the jimson-weed, and that I had commenced an exterminating warfare, and felt confident that there had not a single seed ripened during that time, and that I was determined to follow their destruction with the same vigilance, and report my success.

I found that some seasons were better adapted to their growth than others. I feel confident that not a single seed ripened on the farm during that time. If one escaped my vigilance until the ball had formed, it was taken to the fire and burned. Some seasons they were abundant, and others very scarce. Finally, in 1892 I pulled my last one, and not one has made its appearance since. And here I am, in my eighty-seventh year, master of the situation. There is one thing proved—jimson seed will retain its vitality in the ground forty years.

JOHN CRATES.

Ohio.

Weak and Languid

"Our little Katherine, when but 3½ years old, had whooping cough. She was attended by leading physicians, but did not get well.

She lingered along from day to day, poor, weak and languid. She could scarcely eat anything. Her flesh was soft and sallow. She was slow, dull and without ambition. I therefore decided to give her Hood's Sarsaparilla. She soon began to crave something to eat. From that time on, she steadily improved, and to-day she is in the full enjoyment of good health. Her flesh is solid, her cheeks rosy, appetite good and her sleep sound and refreshing. She is full of life and as mischievous as she can be." MRS. M. A. COOK, 34 Fulton St., Peabody, Mass.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Is the Only
True Blood Purifier

By purifying the blood, it gives nerve, mental, digestive and bodily strength.

Hood's Pills act harmoniously with Hood's Sarsaparilla, 25c.

Our Farm.

FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

CHILDREN'S MONEY CROPS.—Children are often on the watch for some crop they can grow on a small plot of ground, and thus earn a little pocket-money. They would be willing enough to spend some time, and take a great deal of pains with a crop when they see a little money in it, even if this crop would hardly pay, or be thought worthy of much attention, for grown people. A writer (lady) in *Rural New-Yorker* points to sage as a most promising children's crop, and with good reason. It is an easy crop to grow, and the children have the time to pick and cure it. There is a ready market for it, and it brings a fair price. A five-cent packet of seed (Broad-leaved) will give a number of hundred plants.

Plants may be started early under glass, in flats or on the greenhouse bench, and then transplanted to open ground in any good soil, the rows to be about eighteen inches apart, and the plants a foot apart in the rows. I have always resorted to the simpler way of starting my seedlings in open ground. When sowing onion, celery and similar seeds in the well-prepared garden land, I also sow a little row of sage. It is hardy; it grows as easily as cabbage. In June or July, the plants may be transplanted to the permanent bed, and they will yield their several crops year after year.

The writer aforementioned gives the following hints about gathering the crop:

"One may pursue either of two plans; the first, which is the easier, is as follows: Just before the flowers open, cut the sage, leaving an inch or so of the stem. This cutting may be done two or three times, the growth the plant makes depending on the amount of rain during the season. If cut at this time, the stalks will not be hard. The second way is to cut the leaves only. Do this just before the flower stalks develop. The flower stalks should be cut off as fast as they appear, so that the whole strength of the plant may go into the leaves. It takes eight pounds of green sage to make one pound of dry. The sage should be gathered on a sunny day and dried in the shade; or still better, hang it by the kitchen stove, where it will dry quickly. To save the flavor perfectly, the dried sage should be kept in air-tight cans. The better the quality of the sage, the better the price it can command. Do not set out more plants than you can care for. Be sure the leaves are clean before drying. Cure them as quickly as possible."

I hope many of my young friends of the FARM AND FIRESIDE family will try to earn a little pocket-money in this easy way. It may come handy for Christmas.

RHUBARB.—Another crop which the children can handle with profit is rhubarb. It yields its juicy stalks year after year, when once planted, and will only need some manure and a little digging around the plants from time to time. Of course, the richer the soil and the more thorough the digging about the plants, the fatter the stalks and the more of them. Rhubarb is about the earliest pie material that the season affords, and it comes handy for sauce when other fresh sauce materials are in scant supply. There is quite a demand for it in spring and early summer, not only by people in cities and villages who do not own tillable land, but strange to say, often also by owners of rural homes, who might be expected to raise their own rhubarb, but who don't. Any boy or girl will have no difficulty in raising quite a lot of rhubarb stalks after once having a stock of plants as a start, and by a little inquiring among the neighbors, to sell all the stalks at five cents a bunch that can be spared.

THE ROOT-MAGGOT.—It would not be easy to estimate the damage done annually to cabbage, cauliflower, onion and other crops by the root-maggot. In some years I have lost more than fifty per cent of my cabbages and cauliflowers, and whole sowings of radishes are often entirely ruined by the pest. Among my onions, cases of attack by the onion-maggot have been comparatively rare. In recent years I have resorted to rather heavy applications of muriate of potash, and in the case of cabbages and cauliflowers, to frequent spraying with solutions of the same substance. The spray (from the knapsack pump) is

directed upon the plants until the liquid runs down the stem to the ground. I believe it kills eggs as well as worms which it touches. At any rate, since I have been using this device I have lost only an occasional plant, and I fear the cabbage-maggot no more. Whether my constant use of muriate of potash, nitrate of soda and other chemicals as manure is in any way responsible for my comparative immunity from maggots and some other injurious insects, I am unable to say. It is not unlikely. The free use of lime has often been recommended for these root-maggots, and that it is effective, in some measure, hardly admits of doubt. I feel sure that the easiest and most effective way of applying it is also in liquid spray. We should use fresh lime, slake it, and add water enough to make a solution, not a milk or cream of lime. We want lime-water that can be easily applied with a spray-nozzle, and will not leave a regular coat of whitewash all over the plants. If we use this spray repeatedly and lavishly, I think we will have no trouble from the maggot. We want to get rid even of the eggs.

The bisulphid of carbon treatment is now strongly recommended for the same pest by the experiment station at Ithaca, N. Y. If the reader can get bulletin No. 78 of Cornell University, it will give him full information about the pest and the remedies for it. If a small quantity of bisulphid of carbon can be put right to the root of the plant, it will surely kill all the maggots on that plant. Heretofore, if we wanted to apply it we had to punch a hole in the ground, near the plant, with a little stick, and then pour a quantity of the bad-smelling liquid into the hole. Now, Mr. McGowan, who has also devised a most excellent nozzle for spraying orchard trees, has put on the market a very serviceable injector. It is a large syringe, so arranged that each working of the piston throws out only a spoonful of the liquid. When freshly charged, the injector holds enough to treat five hundred plants. It has a long point, which is thrust into the soil near the plant; the piston is then given one turn out and in, and the plant has received its treatment.

Every extensive grower of cabbages and cauliflowers should investigate this, what promises to be a cheap and certain cure for the cabbage-maggot. In quantities, the bisulphid of carbon can be had for a few cents a pound. Unfortunately, our druggists charge excessive rates when one buys only a pound or two, and this is a great drawback to its use in the home garden. That the stuff is highly inflammable and should never be handled in a room where there is an open light or fire, should be often repeated. Whether experiments have been made with this same substance as a remedy for squash and possibly other borers, I am not aware. Surely, this is a promising field of investigation. The squash-borer is often very destructive, and it would be worth while to discover a simple and sure remedy. I believe, however, that my free applications of tobacco dust about the plants have kept this pest in check, as it has also helped to clear out flea-beetles and root-maggots.

BONES AS FERTILIZER.—I have several inquiries concerning the use of bones as manure. One man (in Oregon) says he can get plenty of old bones on the prairie, and wants to put them on his asparagus bed, but does not know how to dissolve them. There is a difference between bone and bone. Reasonably fresh bones contain about four per cent of nitrogen, besides their phosphoric acid. This nitrogen, if made available by fine grinding or otherwise, would help asparagus and garden crops considerably. The weather-worn bones found on the prairie are probably destitute of nitrogen. They are phosphate of lime, and nothing more. Consequently, they will come quite handy to supply phosphoric acid, especially in growing grains or as one of the ingredients of a mixed fertilizer, nitrogen and perhaps potash to be added in any of the forms at hand. The old bones of the prairie will lose little or nothing by burning, which is one of the means by which we can get them disintegrated and in shape for application to the soil. If you can start a nice big fire of wood or rubbish, and then throw on the old bones, you will get a residue consisting of wood ashes and bone ashes, this mixture being an excellent manure for all sorts of crops, asparagus included, and of especial value

and effectiveness for fruit crops. But there is no nitrogen in these ashes. If the land needs nitrogen, you can supply it by growing clover, or by applying cotton-seed meal or dried blood, or stable manure, or by composting the ashes with dried and weathered muck. I frequently use nitrate of soda (sometimes sulphate of ammonia), but freight from the sea-shore would make this material too expensive for use far inland.

It would be wasteful, perhaps, to burn comparatively fresh bones. The four pounds of nitrogen contained in one hundred pounds of bones are worth fifty cents or more, if in proper shape for the use of plants. Probably the best way of treating these bones is to break them up as fine as practicable with an ax or hatchet, and then put them in alternate layers with fresh wood ashes, in barrels or tanks, the whole mass to be kept moist until the potash in the ashes has had time to act on the bones and rot them so that they can be easily mashed or crumbled to pieces. The acid treatment can hardly be recommended to the average farmer, unless he has an unusually good chance to get large quantities of fresh bones at a low figure.

BUGGY PEAS AND BEANS.—A number of readers inquire about bugs in peas and beans and how to keep them out. One of the inquirers wonders how they get inside, as there is no external mark where the insect made its entrance. The female bug lays its eggs on the outside of the pods when they just begin to form. The young insects work through the pod and into the tender little bean or pea, "pulling the hole in after them," so to speak, for the hole is so small it closes up again by the growth of the pod or seed. When the vines are in bloom, you can watch the old weevils at their work. I have sometimes been able to fight the pest successfully by frequent spraying with buhach suspended in water, a tablespoonful to the gallon.

SAL-SODA FOR VEGETATION.—A Michigan reader, E. A. G., inquires about sal-soda, and if the application of soap-suds would hurt plants, if the soap had been made from sal-soda. This substance is an impure form of carbonate of soda, and quite cheap. Some genius has arisen, lately, who is trying to make us believe that soda is as good as potash, and can take the place of it in plant nutrition. I have repeatedly spoken of and contradicted this absurd doctrine. But if soda does not do much good, it will neither do much harm, and nobody need fear ill results from the application of soap-suds to the ground around shrubs and trees, even if the soap used in making the suds was made with soda instead of potash. Whether it would pay to bother much with this kind of suds is a question I would not be ready to answer in the affirmative. The inquirer has killed a choice apple-tree by excessive applications of ashes, and a lot of plum-trees by putting a bushel of hen manure around each tree, and he is not willing to take any more lessons of this kind at such a cost. But if a person is capable of throwing powerful fertilizers around trees by the bushel in a place, he is greatly in need of some severe lessons. Use reason in all things, and in putting fertilizers around trees or shrubs, do not throw or heap them up against the body of the tree, but spread them evenly and thinly over the entire surface that the roots are supposed to cover, and this is ordinarily much more than that covered by the branches.

T. GREINER.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

THAYER'S BERRY BULLETIN FOR JUNE.

Berry-bushes should be thoroughly mulched.

First, by cultivating and hoeing the surface soil, followed at once by an application of green clover, coarse manure, straw or some other coarse litter.

Clover is best, being free from noxious weeds and rich in plant-food.

Mulch should be placed around each hill four or five inches deep, leaving about three feet between the rows for cultivation during the summer. This treatment retains moisture near the surface, prevents the growth of weeds, keeps the berries clean, enriches the soil and is the only practical safeguard against drought.

When new canes of the blackberry and raspberry are fifteen inches high, nip off

about two inches of the tip. This will check the upward growth of the plant, cause several new branches to grow, and greatly increase the bearing surface of the canes. All weak canes should be cut out. This treatment gives a low, stocky, well-formed bush, not liable to damage by severe storms.

The new growth of grapes should also be shortened from time to time by pinching back.

A well-cultivated blackberry-bush will usually set more fruit than it can mature. The quality and size of berry may be greatly improved, without reducing quantity, by trimming off one third or one fourth of the fruit stems.

This is also true of the plum, grape and many other fruits.

New strawberry beds should not be allowed to bear fruit the first season. Pick off all buds and blossoms.

The maturity of seed is very exhausting, and if allowed to grow will greatly reduce vigor of new plants. For this reason, strawberry-plants from old beds should never be used.

The best preventive of disease among berry-plants is clean cultivation and severe pruning.

The worm on currant and gooseberry bushes will appear on the lower leaves soon after the fruit forms. The remedy for this pest is so simple, there is no excuse for neglecting its use:

One ounce of white hellebore dissolved in two gallons of water, applied with sprinkler or brush-broom, when worms first appear, will exterminate them. Two or possibly three applications may be necessary. Paris green may also be used in the same manner.

The space between rows of berry-plants, the first year, may be planted to potatoes or other low-growing garden crops. Strawberries should have all the ground.

AGE OF TREES TO PLANT.

The age at which trees should be bought must be governed by circumstances and by variety. There is a general tendency to buy trees too old rather than too young. When varieties are new and scarce, it may be economy to buy young stock. Some of the freer-growing apples and pears are large enough when two years old if grown from buds; but these fruits are usually set at three years from the bud or graft. Dwarf pears may be set at two or three years, preferably, I think, the former age. Quinces are set at two and three years. Peaches are always set at one year from the bud.—Prof. L. H. Bailey, in *Bulletin* 69.



MOTHERS

recovering from the illness attending childbirth, or who suffer from the effects of disorders, derangements and displacements of the womanly organs, will find relief

and a permanent cure in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Taken during pregnancy, the "Prescription"

MAKES CHILDBIRTH EASY

by preparing the system for parturition, thus assisting Nature and shortening "labor." The painful ordeal of childbirth is robbed of its terrors, and the dangers thereof greatly lessened, to both mother and child. The period of confinement is also greatly shortened; the mother strengthened and built up, and an abundant secretion of nourishment for the child promoted. If

THE MARRIED WOMAN

be delicate, run-down, or overworked, it worries her husband as well as herself. This is the proper time to build up her strength and cure those weaknesses, or ailments, which are the cause of her trouble. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription dispels aches and pains, melancholy and nervousness, brings refreshing sleep and makes a new woman of her.

Mrs. ABRAHAM LYON, of *Lorraine, Jefferson Co., N. Y.*, writes: "I had been suffering from ulceration and falling of the womb, for several years, or since the birth of my youngest child. I consulted all the physicians around here and they gave me up and said there was no help for me."

At last, almost discouraged, I began taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and took five bottles. It is three years since and I have not had any return of the trouble. I feel very grateful, and in fact, owe my life, for I do not think I should have been alive now if I had not taken your medicine."



MRS. LYON.

SENDING MONEY IN THE MAILS.

Be careful how you send money to unknown parties. Having been for some time a subscriber to FARM AND FIRESIDE, and being highly pleased with the paper, I take this method of warning its many readers of the danger of sending currency (as many of us do) to unknown persons in a common letter. About one month ago my wife wished me to send for her a small amount of money to a party in the East, and as I had done a great many times before without loss, I inclosed the money, instead of buying a money-order, as she thought I would, and strange to say, the letter got to them, but they wrote me that the money was not in it. So I would warn everybody to be very careful how they deal with strangers. J. M. PARKER.

Illinois.

ELDORADO BLACKBERRY.

The Eldorado blackberry is a vigorous grower, fruit large and pendulous, slender, hairy spikes with few thorns, color jet black, with deep crimson flesh, seeds very



small and almost coreless, and is one of the most desirable blackberries ever put on the market. E. W. Reid's Nurseries, Bridgeport, Ohio, are the introducers of this valuable new berry.



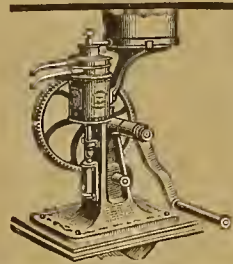
FROM TENNESSEE.—This is a unique place, and has a remarkable history. In the year 1890 two men of this part of the country, who believed in temperance as the best foundation for any town, conceived the idea of starting a town upon that basis. Their first move was to interest men of means in the North and East, who shared their views as to temperance, in the project. They especially impressed upon them the thought that here was an opportunity to show their faith by their works—to give an object-lesson to the world that the sale of liquor in a town was not only not necessary to its prosperity, but a positive hindrance. Full of enthusiasm themselves, these men succeeded in arousing enthusiasm in others. Prominent men of means in Ohio, Illinois, New York and Maryland were induced to join the enterprise. The East Tennessee Land Co. was formed, and bought up a large tract of land in Roane county, beautifully situated in a bend of the Emory river, upon a plateau over 700 feet above sea-level, and surrounded by mountains 1,500 to 2,000 feet high. The air is pure, fresh, dry mountain air; the soil porous, and the Emory river furnishes an abundant supply of sweet, soft water. The region abounds in bituminous coal, iron and limestone. Altogether, it is an ideal spot for a town. The Cincinnati Southern and the Southern railways pass through the place, while the Tennessee Central is to pass near it and to tap it with a branch. The Harriman Coal & Iron Co. has completed a road to Brushy mountain, where the state has bought several thousand acres of coal lands, which it will work with its convicts. After the East Tennessee Land Co. had secured the site, it induced a large number of people in the northern and eastern states to attend the opening sale of lots. There was a veritable "boom," and prices were paid which exceeded the highest hopes of its originators. Part of the tract was laid out and its lots sold at moderate prices to induce laborers and mechanics to settle there, and another section was arranged with especial reference to the colored people. Each deed given contained a provision forever prohibiting the manufacture, sale or storing of intoxicating liquors to be used as a leverage. Many beautiful homes were at once erected, some of them costing many thousands of dollars, while there is a general appearance of thrift and comfort about the whole place, which indicates the intelligence and character of its inhabitants. Churches were soon erected by the Methodists, M. E. South, Baptists, Universalists, Christians, Protestant Episcopalians, Presbyterians and Congregationalists. Able preachers were secured by the different congregations. Great attention is given to education. There are five public schools. But the great educational institution of the place is the American Temperance University. It was opened in 1893, and after an existence

of only two years has already over 300 students of both sexes. They come from seventeen states, and are an earnest, substantial set of young people. The university is blessed with an able and devoted faculty. It only lacks funds in order to make it a great and increasing power in the educational world. A large part of its success is due to its chancellor, the Rev. Dr. J. B. Spence, a veteran in such work. Much credit must also be given to the able and consecrated body of teachers he has gathered around him. A very liberal spirit is shown toward the children of members of the G. A. R., and to young people of small means who really desire to get an education. Twelve of the students are studying for the gospel ministry. An excellent feature is the home for young women, where they are trained in housekeeping while pursuing their studies. Several industries have been established here, among them the Harriman Rolling Mills, Harriman Tack Co., Harriman Hoe and Tool Co., S. R. Paige Lumber & Mfg. Co., East Tennessee Furniture Co., Bailey Bit & Augur Co., Lening & Harris Agricultural Works, Duffie Machine Co. The panic of 1893 was very disastrous to the place, as yet in its infancy. But the people have shown real grit in holding on, and you can hardly meet a Harriman man or woman who does not speak hopefully of its future. It is bound to be a "railroad center" in the course of a few years. So soon as the state gets its Brushy mountain mines into full working order—which is a matter of a few weeks now—good steam coal can be set down here at seventy-five cents per ton. This will encourage manufacturers to establish themselves here. Manufactories will bring people, and so the place will grow. Established only five years ago, Harriman has a population of from 3,000 to 4,000. The intelligence and moral character of the people are far above the average. The churches have their young people's societies, Y. P. S. C. E's., Epworth Leagues, B. Y. P. U's., etc., while there is a Y. M. C. A., with free reading-room, and W. C. T. U., which has a fine "temple," with a seating capacity of 800 to 1,000. Being the best public hall of the town, and at the same time under the control of Christian women, low "shows" are pretty well shut out, and so one great source of demoralization is avoided. The climate is remarkably healthful. Harriman is 80 miles north of Chattanooga, 50 miles west of Knoxville, 258 miles south of Cincinnati and 125 east of Nashville. The train service of the Cincinnati Southern is very fine; good road-bed, fast schedule. The Queen & Crescent route is fast making a name for itself for comfort and regularity. The better Harriman becomes known, the more will it attract persons seeking a good climate in which to reside, either temporarily or permanently, and parents who desire to bring up their boys in a place where they will have good educational facilities, and be free from the allurements of the saloon and bar-room. A. P. Harriman, Tenn.

FROM TEXAS.—Wallis is situated at the crossing of the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe and the Aransas Pass railroads, 80 miles north of Galveston and 40 miles west of Houston. Wallis offers great inducements to several business enterprises—a good newspaper, a farm implement factory, a cotton-seed oil mill, a broom factory, and many other factories could find good openings here. The rich prairie that surrounds Wallis offers a rich return to those wishing to engage in farming. Those wishing to engage in fruit and vegetable growing will find here a climate and soil that will yield a bountiful return. Poultry is a paying business here; the climate is so mild that chicken raising can be carried on all winter. Farmers and stock raisers will find all the natural advantages. Corn yields from 35 to 60 bushels per acre; oats, from 50 to 100; cotton, $\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ bales; sweet potatoes, 200 to 400 bushels, and Irish potatoes, 150 to 250 bushels per acre. Millet, sorghum, cabbage, Irish potatoes, beans, peas, and all kinds of vegetables can be grown, two crops a year. We are not subject to drought or hot winds. Plenty of good water is obtained at an average depth of 35 feet. We have good schools, and the largest free school fund of any state. Good land can be bought at from \$3 to \$15 per acre; a small payment down, balance on ten or fifteen years' time, if desired. I find the southern people ever ready to help those who try to help themselves. During the time I have been among them, I have been treated very kindly. H. I. C. Wallis, Tex.

FROM CALIFORNIA.—This country is entirely undeveloped. It was entered as homestead land, and is owned by individuals. It has nothing growing on it but alfalfa, a very nutritious plant. We make the finest hay of it. It dries up when the dry season comes on, and we then rake it up without cutting. Stock will fatten on it. I am now plowing new ground covered with it, some of it twelve inches high. I am plowing seven inches deep with a twelve-inch plow and two small horses. It is the easiest and nicest soil I ever worked. The water is now running through our ditches, and men who would have taken three dollars an acre for their land two months ago, want ten dollars now, and that is cheap. It would be foolish for any one to come here without money. A man needs \$1,500 or \$2,000 for house, team, implements, etc. One of the drawbacks is that it is deep to water—from 80 to 200 feet—but we get the finest water that ever flowed, and an inexhaustible supply. The thermometer gets to 110° in summer, but we have a breeze. We do not have to feed stock more than 60 to 90 days. We get the best of oak wood in the mountains by going after it, or get it for five dollars a cord in town. Three

HAVE YOU FIVE OR MORE COWS?



If so a "Baby" Cream Separator will earn its cost for you every year. Why continue an inferior system another year at so great a loss? Dairying is now the only profitable feature of Agriculture. Properly conducted it always pays well, and must pay you. You need a Separator, and you need the BEST—the "Baby." All styles and capacities. Prices, \$75. upward. Send for new 1895 Catalogue.

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cords will last any ordinary family a year. We get fence posts from the old railroad ties—nice, straight redwood at fifteen cents each. They make two good posts, and also one length of stove-wood. Not any of this land is more than five miles from a station, and some of it right on the railroad. Our school-house is a new, two-story house, and cost \$4,000. We have church and Sunday-school in it. The districts are large, and children go three miles and more to school. We turn our horses in the pasture at night and work them all day, giving them a little hay at noon. This is no place for a poor man to get work, for we are all poor together, and can't afford to hire, but nearly everybody will sell part of his land to get money to improve the balance. Under the Wright irrigation law the bonds run twenty years, and then they are due. The water then belongs to the district, and will not be more than fifty cents an acre. At present it is about one dollar, or will be when the whole work is completed. This is a fine country for poultry, and for all kinds of fruit. We have not much fruit growing as yet, on account of the country being new. J. B. Spottiswood, Cal.

FROM CALIFORNIA.—The San Fernando valley excels everything else available for colonizing and making money in southern California. The valley is about thirty by twelve miles, mostly level, and very rich. The population is small. The "washes," or dry beds of streams, occupy a good deal of space here, especially on the line of the Southern Pacific, as the Pacoima and Tejuca discharge a vast amount of water into the Los Angeles river in the winter. But the moment you leave them you have tens of thousands of acres of the best fruit and farming land in the state. Here in the center of the valley, only eighteen or twenty miles from Los Angeles, and tributary to Fernando and Pacoima, are fully 15,000 acres of choice lands, valued at about \$50, undeveloped, and bearing, in some cases, undeveloped water. It sells in small quantities at \$150, with water furnished in steel pipes—one inch to ten acres. A few families from Racine county, Wisconsin, have located here, at Pacoima, and more will follow. As soon as we get the small colony provided for, we want to plan for a larger one on some plan, and test sugar-beets, and if possible add that industry. I have known \$230 per acre refused for beet lands at Chino. They sell there usually at \$175. All the fruits of this valley develop more than normal amount of sugar. The average altitude is 1,000 feet, and foot-hills 1,300 to 1,500 feet. The air is dry and pure. F. B. N. Fernando, Cal.

FROM MISSOURI.—We have a timbered country. The land is cheap. It is one of the best fruit countries in the United States. All kinds of fruit-trees are loaded down—peach, apple and cherry trees are as full as they can well be. Howell county took the premium on fruits at New Orleans, several years ago, at Kansas City and at the world's fair. It is a new country; the orchards are just beginning to bear. There are thousands of fruit-trees set every year. When this country is once developed, it is bound to be the leading country in fruit. We had a failure in peaches and all other fruits last year. It was the first for fifty years. We can raise good corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, sweet potatoes and all kinds of vegetables. Land sells for from \$1.25 to \$25 an acre. It is a good stock country. Hogs get fat in the woods on acorns. J. W. H. West Plains, Mo.

FROM MISSOURI.—We had a severe winter and a late spring. Our wheat is all right; small, but growing fine. Grass and clover are fine crops. We have the best prospect for a bountiful crop of all kinds of fruit we have had since 1891. Shall we cultivate our corn deep or shallow? I will give you my experience last year: I plowed my ground deep in the fall of 1893. In the spring of 1894, before I planted, I harrowed it well, then check-rowed it about three and a half feet wide. Then I took a double-shovel plow and went once through each row, then harrowed again, using a wide harrow and two horses, which left the ground in fine condition. I cultivated with double-shovel plow four times, not over two inches deep, and I had the best corn in my neighborhood. H. B. Oak Ridge, Mo.

FROM MISSOURI.—Cape Girardeau is the banner county of southeastern Missouri. The surface is broken. The soil is rich. Grain of all kinds, potatoes, fruits and berries of all kinds are raised here. Large quantities of poultry and eggs are shipped from this county every year. Jackson, the county-seat, has a population of 1,500, contains several churches, two public schools, one college, two large flouring-mills, a stove factory, a meat-packing concern, etc. Cape Girardeau, on the Mississippi, has 5,000 inhabitants. Farm land ranges in price from \$30 to \$50 an acre. Farm-hands are paid 50 cents per day and board, or 75 cents and board themselves. W. O. R. Jackson, Mo.

Prize winning Black Leghorns, the champion layers. Eggs \$1.50 per 15. Mrs. J. L. Rauldolph, Bartlett, Ohio.

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Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammononton, New Jersey.

MEAT MAKES THE HENS LAY.

THE most essential substance for promoting egg production is nitrogen. This is best fed to the hens in the shape of lean meat. If meat could be supplied daily in the proportion of one pound to twelve hens, there would be such an increase in the production of eggs as to really lessen the cost of feeding. That is, there would be sufficient eggs secured, over and above the number that would be obtained without the use of meat, to not only pay for the meat, but to increase the profits. And this gain would easily come, two extra eggs a week from each hen paying the bill, as the cheapest kind of meat may be used.

A poultryman who sold eggs to his neighbors, some of whom kept hens, gave as his secret the feeding of meat. His hens seldom inclined to sit, because they were not fattened by overfeeding with grain, and they would lay as many eggs during the coldest weather as in summer. One severe winter he sold eggs at fifty cents a dozen, owing to their scarcity, and paid fifteen cents per pound for meat, which was also high; but his profit was large. He would have had no eggs at all but for the meat.

Animal feed is necessary for fowls, if they are expected to be producers at all seasons of the year. It is a mistake to make grain the principal food for laying hens. Grain is well enough as food for market fowls, but the laying hen demands something more. The egg itself is animal food, and although it can be produced from grain, yet the hen is required, in order to be profitable, to produce an egg each day, or as near that as possible, and her work must not be interrupted from lack of the necessary nutriment. Meat fills a want that cannot be supplied from any other source, when the hen is laying regularly. Bone and meat are now staple poultry foods.

PROFIT FROM AN ACRE.

While one hundred hens are not too many for one acre of land, better proportionate results will be secured with fifty hens. If the farmer finds that fifty hens pay on one acre, he can use other acres in the same manner. Few farmers have ever really tried to make poultry pay. Generally, if hens have paid at all on the farm they deserve all the credit. There are no fabulous profits in poultry, nor is the capital required much less than for other stock, but the losses are sooner recuperated, and better prices are obtained. There is another advantage which is important: The returns from the sales of poultry and eggs are constant. There is no waiting until harvest-time for crops to mature, nor being governed and regulated by "corners" or speculators. There is always a retail demand which the farmer himself can regulate and supply.

The most careful experiments have demonstrated that each hen in a large flock should give a profit of one dollar per year. Some of the hens will pay nearly twice as much, while some will not lay at all. The cost and the profit are regulated by circumstances, as is the case with all industries. All risks must be encountered, including losses from disease and mismanagement; but with all the allowance for drawbacks, the hen will give a profit of one dollar per year in eggs and chicks.

There is no more labor required in managing a flock of fifty hens than in managing a cow, or in plowing, seeding, cultivating and harvesting a one-acre crop, and the larger the crop the smaller the cost proportionately for each hen or bushel of produce.

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The Illinois Central Railroad Company offers for sale on easy terms and at low prices, 150,000 acres of choice fruit, gardening, farm and grazing lands located in SOUTHERN ILLINOIS. They are also largely interested in, and call especial attention to the 600,000 acres of land in the famous YAZOO DELTA of Mississippi, lying along and owned by the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad Company, and which that Company offers at low prices and on long terms. Special inducements and facilities offered to go and examine these lands both in Southern Illinois and in the "Yazoo Delta," Miss. For further description, map and any information, address or call upon E. P. SKENE, Land Commissioner, No. 1 Park Row, Chicago, Ill.; or G. W. MCGINNIS, Ass't Land Commissioner, Memphis, Tenn.

STANDARDS BY SELECTION.

By weeding out the unprofitable stock, a higher standard will result. In the observation of the individuals much can be learned. The good hens become pets, and pride in their individual excellence on the part of the owner results. The young stock will be hatched only from the best producers, instead of from eggs taken indiscriminately from the egg-basket. No farmer who will carefully cull out the drones need depend on others to produce breeds for him. Pure breeds should be used, however, and especially pure-bred males. Even with the choicest stock, the matter of selection should not be overlooked. There are drones and idlers in aristocratic flocks as well as in flocks of low degree. There is room for improvement in every direction. The object is to impress upon poultrymen and farmers the importance of a close scrutiny of the stock, and to teach the fact that a profitable flock can be made up of what may look like unpromising material.

SOUR MILK.

We are asked if sour milk is injurious to chicks, and a reader suggests that he has raised chickens for twenty-five years and has always had good results. He alludes, of course, to adults. He first warms the milk, however. His pullets, hatched in April, have laid in August. Sour milk, if heated, is then in a more wholesome condition, and may be used. The claim we made was that it should not be used for chicks, as it is liable to cause bowel disease, owing to the sour milk being in a stage of fermentation. The difficulty is that but few will heat the milk, or remove it until it becomes entirely unfit for any use. Sour milk, fresh milk or buttermilk is excellent for hens in winter. Regarding the early laying of the pullets (four months old), they were probably Leghorns, but they will be more serviceable if not beginning quite so soon.

CORRESPONDENCE.

POULTRY FOR PROFIT.—One of the most important points in raising poultry for profit is to take pains in breeding. You can get a much finer stock by breeding from a pair than by a flock. If you want poultry for eggs, you want lively, spry fowls; to get these you should breed a pullet and a stag. If your pullet has a long, slim body, is spry, and has a tail that runs in a straight line with her back, you should use a male with a tail that is more up in the air, but I should prefer one more like the hen, as they would mature earlier. I should never breed from a crooked-tail rooster and hen. You will get a larger fowl from a rooster and hen than from a pullet and stag, but not so active. A great many breed for their largest rooster, regardless of shape and constitution, and then complain because they do not pay their way. The more active a fowl the better her laying qualities, and I think it pays much better to keep hens for laying than for market. I have kept a large number of different kinds of poultry, but I like the Pit Games much the best. I have two hens which I got March 1, 1894, and they have laid 385 eggs, and wanted to set twice during that time. I have nothing but the Games now, and I have made two dollars a head from the flock the first year. Did you ever hear any one say they did not like them who had ever kept them? I never did. A great deal depends on the feed and care of poultry. The best kinds will not pay if not taken care of. As eggs are always high in winter, I think the best way to get plenty of eggs is as follows: First, I would gather the leaves in the fall, enough to cover the floor of the poultry-house two or three different times, at least a foot deep, and divide the flock as much as possible. For the morning feed I would give about half a mess of wheat, thrown in amongst the leaves, then water them in about half an hour. At noon I would give them timothy or clover rowen, mixed with hot or cold water. At night I would give them all the corn, scattered in the leaves, that they would eat. If the floor is tight they will get every kernel. They want meat every few days, which can be beef lungs, as such meat will not freeze as hard as other kinds, and costs very little or nothing. Then I would give them apples every day or so, cut in halves and quarters. You cannot make money out of any animal or fowl without care. Eggs need turning every day before, as well as after, putting in the incubator or under the hen. W. F. L. Montrose, Pa.

THE BEST BREEDS.—In selecting the breed of poultry to keep, one must be largely guided by the purpose for which they are intended; that is, whether eggs or chickens are the principal objects. A good all-around, general-purpose flock may be secured at a cheap and easy rate, as follows: Procure a dozen good, young Plymouth Rock hens, also the same number of Leghorn hens, and a cock of the same breed; let all run together. The Leghorn eggs will produce pure-bred chicks, and the Plymouth Rock eggs will

furnish nondescript fowls, somewhat resembling both parents, and furnishing large, plump, meaty carcasses that will sell well in any market, and be very acceptable at the home table. The second year it will be well to continue the cross-breeding, as follows: Procure a sitting of Leghorn eggs laid by hens not related to those you already have; keep all the females hatched from these, and as many males as are needed for breeding purposes. Of these small, active breeds I would keep only one male to every twenty females. In my experience, this proportion insures more fertile eggs than when more males are kept, and also a larger ratio of pullet chickens. The males thus obtained may be kept for two years, when I should again procure eggs from an entirely different source, of Plymouth Rock blood this time, and should choose my males from these, which males I should keep not less than two nor more than three years. Of these larger, more clumsy breeds I should keep one male to every fifteen or perhaps every twelve hens. You are now in the sixth year of your experiment, and have on hand a fine flock of fowls abhorrent to the eyes of the poultry fancier, who tolerates only pure breeds, but beautiful to one who keeps fowls for the money there is to be made from them in an ordinary market. The fowls from the first two years' matings are a part pure Leghorns, the rest half-breeds. The chicks from the later cross are part full-blooded Plymouth Rock and the others are also half-breeds—fine, large birds, more hardy than any pure-blooded stock, good mothers and good layers, too; especially good in the season when eggs are scarce and dear. Remember, however, that in securing success with fowls, the breed is only one factor among many. H. T.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Buff Leghorns.—R. W. M., Oswego, Kan., writes: "What are the points of a Buff Leghorn?"

REPLY:—Clear buff in color, white ear-lobes, single comb, yellow legs and yellow beak.

Light Brahma Male.—J. T. S., Anulston, Ala., writes: "My Light Brahma sits down a great deal, and appears to have leg weakness."

REPLY:—Probably he is overfed, and fat. Turn him out to seek his food without aid, so as to compel him to exercise.

Blindness.—Mrs. N. R. K., Corry, Pa., writes: "One of my hens was blind, with eyes closed, and finally died. What was the cause?"

REPLY:—Probably that portion of the roost occupied by her was exposed to an overhead draft. Sponging with a solution of boracic acid is an excellent remedy in such cases.

Game and Common Fowls—Probably Lice.—F. T. Buckley, Wash., writes: "If I use a Game male with common hens, will it improve the laying of the offspring?—My canary-bird has lost the feathers from his head. What is the cause?"

REPLY:—The Game is not equal to some breeds as layers. A Leghorn male should be preferred.—The canary may have lice. Rub one drop of sweet-oil on its head twice a week.

Ducks.—"Subscriber" writes: "I had breed of ducks, as large as the Pekin, white, but bills were of pink color, with feet and legs of the same hue. What is the name of the breed?—How shall I feed young ducklings?"

REPLY:—The breed was the Aylesbury. Feed young ducklings on cooked potatoes or turnips thickened with bran and corn-meal, or on a variety, any kind of ground grain being suitable. The food should be soft. Always have water to drink near them.

Turkeys Shooting the Red.—Mrs. G. C., writes: "My turkeys' heads are very red, and I lost forty last year. This year the same thing is happening with the young ones."

REPLY:—It is a critical period with all young turkeys, and known as "shooting the red." After that period they are hardy. The remedy is to keep them dry and in a warm place at night. Anoint the heads with a few drops of sweet-oil twice a week. Feed on nourishing food, such as cooked lean meat, and bread soaked in milk.

Gapes—Laying Ducks.—L. B. G., Rutherford, Tenn., writes: "Give a remedy for gapes. Will ducks lay as many eggs without drakes as with them?"

REPLY:—Scatter air-slaked lime freely on the runs occupied by the chicks, and give each a drop of turpentine on a bread crumb twice a day. If no relief is obtained, draw the worms from the windpipe by inserting the tip of a feather, twirling it and withdrawing it quickly.—Yes, ducks will lay when no drakes are present, and fully as many eggs as when with them.

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A BOY'S BATTLE.

BY WILL ALLEN DROMGOOLE.

CHAPTER I.

AN ACCIDENT.

THE big farm-bell began to ring, calling the hands from the cotton-field to their dinner.

With the first note from the iron clapper Andrew Pearson dropped the book he had been reading and sprang to his feet. It was Saturday noon; on Saturdays the hands were allowed to leave the field at noon, if they chose to do so, without jeopardizing their chances of being employed again on Monday. If they preferred it, they were at liberty to work on as usual, the full day's time. Being paid according to the amount of cotton they brought to the gin, the loss from the half holiday was their own. They always chose the holiday; not one of them, those employed by the day and those engaged by the year-alike, but hung his basket under the shed at Saturday noon, there to remain until Monday morning.

"I must see Uncle Jack before he gets off," said Andrew, dashing, boy fashion, through the house, and with every dog on the place at his heels. "He might be going to town if he hasn't forgot his promise. Most of the hands do go to town Saturdays."

"And come back drunk, if they dodge the police and the lockup," said Mr. Pearson, who had come out by another door just in time to hear his son's words.

Andrew's eyes flashed.

"Uncle Jack doesn't get drunk," said he. "He says he promised 'Miss Jinny' (that's his wife) forty years ago he wouldn't, and he never has. I call that a rare good promise-keeper. And I'm glad he is, because he promised to let me go 'possum-hunting with him the very first good day he was out of the cotton-field. Last Saturday it rained; I think we'll go to-day."

"You ain't goin' off on no 'possum-huntin'," Andrew, cried a sharp voice from the kitchen, where Mrs. Pearson was frying turn-over pies for dinner. "I ain't goin' to have you comin' back here with your arms shot off, or maybe your head, even. You can just make up your mind to leave that gun be. You ain't goin' traipsin' around the farm with a parsel o' niggers *this* day; that you ain't."

"Oh, mother, don't say that!" said Andrew. "I shoot any time with father, and I'm not the least afraid of the gun."

"Which ain't any sign it won't go off and land you where you'll be mighty willin' to own your mammy knows some things."

Mrs. Pearson was one of those women whose boast it was, that having spoken her mind, she never changed it. Andrew knew it was useless to argue the matter. He did attempt a little boasting, but it was very promptly nipped in the bud.

"You make me out such a baby, mother," he protested, his lips quivering. "I'm not afraid of the gun; I'm not afraid of anything. Didn't I ride to town alone at midnight to bring the doctor to Uncle Jack the time he was so bad off? And I swam Stone river on the bay mare and brought Mrs. Davis and her baby to the bank that time they took the wrong ford. And I—"

"Yes, yes; you're the peartest fifteen-year-old ever was seen, I'll be bound. You might a-broke your neck on that wild filly; it's a mercy you didn't. But if old Jack's the occasion of the hurry, I'll be bound you're ready to canter. As for swimmin' Stone river, it was a mighty darin' thing to do, and if I'd a-heen asked, you wouldn't a-done it, that's all."

Andrew turned away with a sigh. When his mother spoke in that tone there was no appealing from her decision. And she had decided that he was not to go 'possum-hunting with Uncle Jack.

There was nothing to do but run down to the cabin—that stood with several others in a grove of wild locusts at the top of the hill beyond the spring branch, and some few hundred yards to the left of the "big gate" that opened upon the glistening white turpentine—and see the old man unchain the dogs and trudge off to the sweet, autumn-crowned woods alone.

"And it is such a good day," said Andrew, as he went down the path. "The woods will be full of 'possum, and wild grapes and persimmons. Afraid of a gun! I'd as soon be a girl and be done with it, if I must never leave off wearing dresses, anyhow."

It was a disappointment. He listened a moment for the deep, mellow haying of the hounds, Ring and Ready and Bess and Lil, that would be almost frantic to be off whenever Uncle Jack should step to the cabin door with his gun upon his shoulder.

And they would not return, Andrew knew,

until dark, and judging by the past, there would be a fat, stumpy-tail 'possum dangling from the hunter's shoulder, while his hat would be filled with mealy, ripe persimmons, and every pocket bulging with wild grapes. Perhaps there would be a coon to keep the 'possum company. It was too bad. For one moment he was half tempted to run away and go anyhow. But the next—

"Shucks!" he said, "Unc' Jack wouldn't begu to let me."

done tuk inter his head ter roost. Go long dar, Miss Jinny, en gib yo' ole man his bite o' corn-bread en fat meat, en don't be keepin' de little marster waitin'."

"Good mind ter let you go widout a bite," said Aunt Jenny, as she trudged off to the cabin and her interrupted duties. "Makin' me leab things ter burn up en go racin' after you beca'se you ain' got no mo' sense en ter go qua'llin' back at a man what's druuk. Has ter chase him off wid yo' gun."



UNCLE JACK.

A HEAVY, DARK OBJECT CRASHED THROUGH THE VINES.

As he drew nearer the cabin he noticed that the dogs were silent; the cabin door stood wide upon its hinges, and the odor of burning bacon met him upon the threshold.

The room was deserted; a wooden tray of corn-meal dough upon the hearth near the smoking hoe told him that Aunt Jenny, old Jack's wife, had been called out just at the moment when about to slap her hoe-cake upon the hoe.

Some broad, long strips of bacon were burning to a crisp upon the live coals that had been raked upon the hearth. Upon another heap a coffee-pot was "boiling over," the muddy, blackish foam sputtering and spitting among the hot embers. A lean, black foxhound, which Andrew recognized as Lil, possibly because of the one white spot over her left eye, was nosing as close to the burning bacon as she dared approach. A yellow cat had her nose in the bread-tray upon one side, and a speckled pullet was picking at the unusual feast upon the other.

Andrew stopped but a moment to exclaim against the rogues, "You, Lil, come out of there! Scat! Shoo! you petty thieves you."

The next moment, above the soft pitapat of the dog's feet, and the clicking, harsh sound of the pullet's claws upon the bare floor, as the invaders scampered out by way of a back door, Andrew heard the voice of Aunt Jenny in angry protest, and glancing in the direction whence it came, he saw the old negro and his wife coming slowly across the vacant field in the rear of the cabin.

"You ain' got a mite o' sense," said Aunt Jenny. "You's de higges' gump dat walks de earth, I reckon; go traipsin' off after a mau what's too drunk ter know what he's sayin', anyhow."

"Ef," said Uncle Jack, and the grin upon his face contradicted the severity of his tone, "ef he hab de reasonment ter talk, he sholy hab got de reasonment ter hold his tongue. Dat nigger ain' hornded yit, Miss Jinny, what kin call ole Jack a thief. Ez fur dis here Yeller Pete, I'll let de daylight enter dat yeller gent'man sum o' dese days, you hear me."

"Shet yo' mouf!" exclaimed Aunt Jenny, sharply. "All de hands at de gin-house done hear you say dat alraidy. You better shet yo' mouf en keep it shet till you fin' out it ain' no pra'r-book, ef it do op'n en shet."

"Let up, Miss Jinny, let up," said Uncle Jack, who had caught sight of Andrew coming out to meet him. "You's done said more'n 'nough ter let de ole man know he ain' got no sense. En dat ehille sholy come ter go after dat fat 'possum we been layin' off ter h'ist out o' dat persimmon-tree, whar he

"Heish chile, heish," said Uncle Jack, laughing; "dis gun ain' had no load in hit since las' suramer, not since I shot dat fine rabbit what turn out ter be ole Mis' Tom-cat. Eh, eh!"

His good humor only exasperated his wife the more.

"En dat's all de sense you got, anyhow," she declared. "Not ter know a rabbit from a gray eat. You ain' fitten ter be let go off by yo'se'f, you sholy ain't."

Uncle Jack was a good-natured old fellow, if a trifle reckless when angered. He bore the reproaches of his wife, whom he always addressed as "Miss Jinny," with wonderful patience always. They had lived together in slavery and in freedom too long for him not to know that under all the sharp, shrill scolding there was a genuine affection, and a heart that held his happiness and safety first always.

This afternoon he bore Aunt Jenny's temper with unusual meekness, perhaps because he already recognized the folly of which he had been guilty. True, the old gun was not loaded; but it had frightened poor, half-drunken Pete quite as effectually as though it had been full charged.

Uncle Jack's last view of him had been to see him flying past his own house with a wild yell that brought his wife, Big Lize, to the door to see what was the matter. But he had been too frightened to stop. All Big Lize saw was Pete making for the cedar woods, and Uncle Jack being escorted home again by Aunt Jenny.

Pete, known about the plantation as Yellow Pete, was a small, willowy mulatto of a crafty and resentful disposition, though brave enough when sober. Aunt Jenny's assertion that "Yeller Pete gwine ter git eben wid you ef it takes de balance ob de year," was a pretty fair description of the mulatto's disposition.

"What did he do, Uncle Jack?" said Andrew, as he followed the negro to the cabin, where Aunt Jenny had resumed her task of preparing the hasty noonday "snack."

"Do?" said Uncle Jack.

"Yes; what did Yellow Pete do to you?"

"Do to me?"

"Yes, to you. What did he do that made you so mad?"

"Mad? I ain' mad, honey; hit wuz dest a minute I wuz beside myse'f; it wuz all ober in a minute. I ain' gwine gib dat nigger a secondary thought; I ain', sholy, sholy."

"But what did he do?" said Andrew, his curiosity at full heat.

"Do?"

"Yes; what did he do to you?"

"Ter who, me?"

"Yes; did he hit you?"

"Did who hit who?" demanded old Jack, with a show of temper. "Did he hit me? Naw, honey, dat he didn't; dat he didn't. Dey wouldn't be hide nor taller left o' dat yeller gent'man if he'd a-laid de weight oh his finger on dis nigger. He jest p'intedly gib de ole man a little bit a bit too much ob his tongue."

I don't want ter hurt somebody, but I reckon I'll hab ter do some killin', anyhow, ef dat Pete don't keep out oh my way. I 'spect I'd a-kill'd him dis time ef dar wuz any load in de gun. When a man am tolerable mad, son, he oughtn't fur ter keep his guns 'roun' too handy. Dey might go off too quick."

He was only indulging in a little boasting. In his customary good humor he would no more have injured Pete than he would have harmed the boy at his side—the boy who was almost as fond of him as he was of his own father. And the boast was meant only for the boy's ears; neither of them noticed the large, tall negro man crossing the lot but a short distance from the point where they stood, and in easy earshot of their voices. This negro was "Blind Sam," a field-hand from a neighboring plantation, a bad fellow, who had stirred up many quarrels among the hands, and had lost his own right eye in a broll of his own brewing.

As Blind Sam went across the lot, he looked back at Jack with his one bright eye, and slowly shook his head.

"Make mighty free wid dat ar tongue o' his," said he, and passed on, leaving Uncle Jack to finish his story.

Andrew turned his head just in time to see Sam's disfigured face disappear down the path that led through the orchard beyond the cabins.

"Pete had been drinkin' some," said Uncle Jack. "I ought ter a-come long in de house, lack Miss Jinny tol' me, en let him talk, ef he'd a mind ter, ter de fence-post. Hit's mighty easy ter see what you ought ter do after de do am done; remember dat, son. You see, Pete come up here to ax 'bout his hoe, what he say some-un tuk off'n de horse-apple tree whar he hung it 'mongst de limbs. He excused me ob takin' hit; en den I tol' him he ain't showin' de proper respec' ter a ole man, ter be exeusin' ob him o' takin' a measly ole hoe. En den I invite him ter make hiss'ef mo' sca'ce en what he am, else I'd sho' sick de dogs ou him. At

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dat he swell up till he look lack dat ole tucky-gobbler ole Mis' been sabin' fur Thanks-givin'. Den we bofe passed some compliments ober one nudder, en den, dest fur fun, I tuk down de ole gun en ax dat yellin' gent'man ter leunne see de color ob his heels. Ef you could a-seed him cut en run. I wuz dat tickled I didn't know what ter do. So I jest put out after him, jest ter see him clip it. Dey ain' been no load in de gun since las' summer, beca'se I been too pol'y ter shoot all las' winter; so Miss Jinny tuk out de las' load, beca'se she say dat anybody what dunno cat fum rabbit ain' fitten ter tote no gun. She say dey might shoot a man sometime, en low it wuz a b'ar. Dat's what Miss Jinny say. En she wuz mightily skeered when she see me chasin' ob Pete. Dat's income she drap her work en lit out after me. Women folks is mighty skeery 'bout dey ole mans sometimes, ef dey be tolerble peart en fine-lookin'. Sholy, sholy!"

He laughed in a low, chuckling way, and after listening with regret to Andrew's account of his mother's refusal to allow him to go with him to the woods, went in to the dinner which Aunt Jenny announced from the doorway to be "raidy en waitin'."

"But I tell you, honey," he said at parting, in his simple, hopeful way, trying to comfort his friend, "I 'spect yo' ma gwine be sorry after while, en remit you ter go bineby. Ef she do, you jest clip across de low groun' fiel' whar de sheep paschers, en den hoof it 'long down froo de orchard, en froo de cottin-patch, on de side todes de ribber, tell you comes ter cedar woods. Den you got ter climb de fence en cross de road, en in de cedars on de fur side de pike, todes town, dar you'll find de ole man. You got ter cross de ribber, but de water mighty low at de ford; you kin step it on de rocks. I'll keep one eyeskunt fur you; en you'll know when you git dar by de scent o' de cedar, beca'se it sholy don't smell nowhars lack it smell down dar in de Stone ribber woods. En dey'll be a 'possum dar, I 'spect, beca'se I gwine fetch my rabbit-foot lout ter conjure de varmints wid. Eh, eh! You jest come long; I'll be dar, en dez ain' nothin' 'tall ter hurt you."

"Hurt me?" sneered Andrew, ready to fire at the suggestion. "Hurt me? Pshaw!"

"Dar now," laughed old Jack, "listen at dat; dest listen at dat, gent'mens. I knowed you ain't gwine take dat. But I knows you ain't no coward, son. I ain' furtit de night you rid dat skeetish filly ter town ter fetch de doctor fur ole Jack. Psher! I say it. I know you ain' no coward. I allus say dat little boy make a man some day; den look out! I say dat de day you wuz fust bornded. I say I 'speet he be president, en maybe git hisse'f made squire, lack his grandpa wuz, befo' de war. Maybe he move ter town en git ter be de police hitse'f, he dat peart. Now, dat's what I say. I know you ain't no coward, son."

The commendation was sweetest music to the boy whose idea of greatest manhood was courage, and who had all a boy's love for that which pertained to the heroic and tasted of adventure. But he had not learned to make nice distinctions; as yet he recognized but one kind of bravery, and that was a physical courage. And he was brave, after his own ideas. But he was destined to learn that the grandest and most dazzling example of physical bravery which ever has been recorded is as nothing compared with the winning of a moral victory—resisting a wrong, daring to do that which is right, for no other reason than that it is right. And an ignorant old negro was to be his teacher. Thus are the humblest sometimes chosen to carry God's great messages.

In regard to Mrs. Pearson's relenting, however, Uncle Jack was mistaken. His father had lifted a voice for him, but it availed nothing.

"Ain't you a little strict with him, mother?" said Mr. Pearson, when Andrew had disappeared down the path to Uncle Jack's house, and Mrs. Pearson had come to the kitchen door "for a breath of fresh air."

"Ain't you a little strict with him? He is a reliable, good fellow, and really handles a gun with some skill. Moreover, he is no longer a baby, but a great, manly boy. Loosen the lines, mother; we would be sorry to find ourselves burdened with a girl-boy by and by. I wish you would let him go with Uncle Jack; the old fellow has planned for this 'possum-hunt all the week."

"That's it, John, go and undo all I've done," said Mrs. Pearson, sharply. "When I say 'no,' do you turn around and say 'yes,' and a pretty state o' things will be to pay by and by. Go on, just go on; tell him his mother is an old baby, and don't know what's what. That his pa's the one to go to. Go on after him, Mr. Pearson, and tell him to go long o' the niggers and get his head shot off."

Mr. Pearson smiled. He knew that his wife really meant him to understand that he had her consent to the hunt, but being a woman who "never changed her mind," she was not going to change it in the usual way. But Mr. Pearson had no disposition to accept a truce so grudgingly yielded.

"Oh, no, mother," said he, "let the boy abide by your wishes. It will not hurt him, I dare say. But if you have no objection, I should like to send him into town this afternoon to carry that grass-blade back to his uncle's hardware-store, and to bring out my rifle. I left it with the smith to have a spring repaired last week."

The face of the mother clouded.

"It's Saturday, John," she replied, "and the pike will be lined with field-hands returning home, and on Saturdays they are always drinking."

"Why, Mary," said the farmer, "the boy will not be worth the raising if we are to teach him to be afraid of his own shadow. A boy must take his chances to a certain extent, and as for me, I'm opposed to mine stumbling and dodging around in petticoats until he is twenty-one."

When the farmer spoke in that tone Mrs. Pearson had no more to say.

"Ride the bay mare, son, and start home an hour by now at the latest," said Mr. Pearson, as Andrew went off to get ready for his ride.

A few hours later he was riding homeward, along the white, sunshiny pike, with the rifle lying across the saddle before him, and his thoughts far away in the woods with Uncle Jack, upon the hunt he had been forbidden to enjoy.

The mare was entering a little stretch of woodland through which the turnpike ran for more than a mile. It was almost sunset; the long, gaunt shadows stretched farther and farther across the white pike; the shadow of the cedars that rose tall and rugged and ragged on either side the road. In those very woods somewhere Uncle Jack was trailing a 'possum, perhaps.

Andrew, rode more slowly; the bay was rather old, easily winded, and a bit stiff in the joints. She offered no resistance when Andrew threw her, with a sudden jerk upon the lines, almost upon her haunches.

He had heard a slight rustling movement, stealthy and uncertain, among the dense foliage of a grape-vine that had twisted itself into the branches of a stalwart cedar near the roadside. Without a thought of fear he pulled the mare aside and rode into the dense, sweet-smelling, shadowy woods.

He drew up again, near the tree in which he had heard the noise, waited a moment, listened; there it was again. Something was in the grape-vine—a eoon, of course, stealing the wild grapes at the risk of his own furry hide.

With a little, low, noiseless laugh, thinking how he would surprise Uncle Jack with a coonskin, after all, Andrew raised the rifle, took aim, and fired.

There was a startled, broken cry, such as no animal that ever roamed the woods could utter, and the next moment a heavy, dark object crashed through the vines and fell to the ground, taking as it fell the form of a man.

Frightened, stricken with horror, Andrew sat spellbound for a single moment. The next he turned, put whip to the mare, and went galloping down the white turnpike, pale as death, quivering in every nerve, and always with that terrible object before his eyes, the sound of cracking branches and stifled shrieks in his ears.

"Who? Who? Who?" This was the only word his white lips could form. He had shot some one among the grape-vines. Who was it?

[To be continued.]

VARIETIES OF RICE.

The varieties of rice cultivated nowadays are so numerous it is utterly impossible to specify them. In India alone there are several hundred varieties, the classifying of which is further complicated by their having different names in different localities. The prevalent custom has been to classify them according to the seasons in which they are sown.

In Madagascar, again, a variety known as "rajaatsky" has also the same properties. The famous Carolina rice, so much thought of in the United States, is nothing more or less than this same "rajaatsky" variety, altered by careful seed selection and improved cultivation, till now some of the choicest Indian varieties of rice are grown from Carolina seed.

Another curious point about this so-called "upland" rice is that it can be grown under exactly the same conditions as the swamp rice and give exactly the results—that is to say, upland rice planted in a swamp will produce as good a crop as if planted on a dry ridge; and the same can be said of swamp rice when planted on a dry ridge. This is no theory, but actual fact, as any one who knows anything about rice cultivation can prove. The "aus," as its name implies, is an early crop, and is a quick grower, some varieties ripening in two months. The quantity of this rice grown in India is limited, being very much smaller than any of the others. The extra dry varieties are not considered quite so nourishing as the swamp, or wet rice, nor so palatable.

The rice consumed most extensively in Queensland at the present day, is that known as "Japan" rice, a short, plump, bright yellow grain, which when hulled gives a pearly white grain; and rice growers are advised to grow this, and this only, for the present. For the last two years varieties of rice have been grown, the principal features of the majority of them being a thin, long grain, which has been practically unsalable, to the great discouragement of the growers. Farmers must study the public taste for rice for the present; at all events till the industry has developed, by which time the public will have been educated to appreciate some of the finer varieties of Indian rice, when a change of variety will be found profitable. In the meantime the demand for this short, plump, pearly rice exists, and varieties, be they from Japan or India, having this characteristic should only

be cultivated, in view of which fact the Department of Agriculture has ordered a quantity of this Japan variety for distribution.—*Bulletin Queensland Department of Agriculture.*

TALL GIRLS AND SHORT.

Opinion has always been very much divided upon the subject of women's height. The novelists and designers of fashion-plates incline to the view that the female form divine should be somewhat of the altitude of a life-guardsmen. Tall women have unquestionably been in the ascendant in more senses than one, of late. It has been expected of us to be very much nearer six feet than five, says a writer in the *Lady's Pictorial*, and we have successfully contrived to fulfil this expectation. Notwithstanding, there is a great deal to be said on the other side. There are those who will declare that there is more fascination, more charm, more vivacity about a little woman. She is, they will say, more energetic, and beside her the average young man does not feel the drawbacks of early and incessant cigarette-smoking and the degeneracy of his sex; she can coax and pout and flounce into pretty little passions with greater grace than a "daughter of the gods," she needs a protecting arm in a crowd, and she does not take up so much room in a railway-carriage, or dwarf her partners in the ball-room. There never yet was a little woman who could not command attention and flirt five times as furiously as a tall one, and no amount of height ever produced more dignity than a small woman can assume on occasion. It is, of course, by comparison that everything is thus or thus, and so it is only when judged by the standard of some exceptionally tall sister that a short woman will permit herself to be so described. She will always indignantly disclaim a brevity of inches under any circumstances, though no woman ever yet objected to the epithet "little woman" used as a term of affection.

BELLS.

Once in Switzerland I stopped at the little village of Burglen, right on the very spot where William Tell lived, for I am one to believe his story with all my heart, and keep the spirit of it in the world, just as I would keep the spirit of Santa Claus for the children, in spite of all that is said against it. Well, every morning and evening, right by my window, rang the "matin" and "vesper" bells, calling the villagers to their simple service; and they came—many with tools in their hands, to leave them at the door—barefooted, to enter and kneel in prayer before going to their daily labor. The bell is called the "Angelus" in that country, and if you once heard it as I have, you would love and cherish all its associations. Let me tell you one little story of the curfew.

In an English village a bride stole forth, Ginevra-like, on her wedding-day, to hide in the furze, but becoming frightened, tried to find her way back, and took the wrong path; she was soon lost, and a heavy snow-storm coming with the darkness, the girl became terrified with visions of robbers and dangers in every form, when suddenly, through the dismal gloom came the sound of the dear old curfew, sweet and low. Guided by it to her home, she fell upon her knees in gratitude. When she died she bequeathed not only a chime of bells to the church of her little village, but money to keep up the custom allways of ringing the curfew.—*Home and Country.*

THE DAKOTA HOT SPRINGS.

The Hot Springs of Arkansas have long been deservedly popular, for the reason that there has been no other place that has filled the requirements of both a health and a pleasure resort. This state of affairs has changed. The Hot Springs of South Dakota have, in recent years, been thrown open to the people, and because of their delightful situation and great curative qualities, are becoming more popular every day. Situated as this resort is, in the famous Black Hills, in the midst of beautiful mountain scenery, possessing that peculiar balsamic atmosphere which is in itself health giving, with waters that are pronounced by experts equal if not superior to those of any other mineral springs in the world, it will soon outrank any other like resort.

The hotel accommodations are of the best—hostelries with all the modern improvements and conveniences. The Evans Hotel, built of pink sandstone, with steam heat, electric lights, and every room an outside one, is easily the best-conducted house between Chicago and Denver. Fine bath-houses are connected with the best hotels. The rates of all the hotels are very reasonable. The surrounding country is more than picturesque—it is wonderful. The marvelous "Wind Cave;" the falls of Fall River; Battle Mountain, the old Indian battle-ground; Deadwood and the gold fields, and the famous Bad Lands are all within driving distance. The mammoth plunge bath at the Springs is noted as being one of the largest natatoriums in the world. So healthful are the surroundings, and so many the conveniences of this "Carlsbad of America," that it is rapidly becoming the "Mecca," not only for invalids, but for pleasure-seekers as well. The "Burlington Route" reaches there in a day and a half from St. Louis. Pullman sleepers and free chair cars on train No. 15 run to Lincoln, and from Lincoln free chair cars and sleepers run through to the Springs.

For further information, call on any "Burlington Route" Agent, or address D. O. Ives, G. P. and T. A., St. Louis, Mo.

PATTY'S MASQUERADE.

"Loves me, does he?" said Patty Peronel, shaking her brown, tendrilly rings of hair over a faded rosebud and a knot of crumpled ribbon.

"How I wish I had means of ascertaining whether Ralph Penrhyn really cares for me, or whether he has heard of Uncle Hutchinson's dollars."

And then she jumped up, and went about her business, which chanced to be girl-hunting just then, for Mrs. Maurice Peronel, Patty's cousin, was chronically in the suds, so to speak, on the domestic service question, and our Patty knew the inside of every intelligence office in town.

As she seated herself in an intelligence office, the shrill, piping voice of an old, old lady beyond made silence vocal.

"You won't do for me," said she. "My kitchen ain't a place for all the loafin' fellers in town to smoke in."

Patty Peronel listened with mischievously sparkling eyes and cherry cheeks. This, then, was the eccentric Aunt Rachel of whom Ralph had often told her—the grim old spinster who "kept house" all by herself in the quaint village of Darlingville.

Very sudden resolves will sometimes rush through our brains, lightning-express fashion, in a short space of time, and almost before the shrill tones of Miss Rachel's falsetto voice had ceased to vibrate on the air, Patty Peronel stood dipping courtesies before her.

"If you please, ma'am, would I suit?" Miss Rachel glared through her spectacles at the trim figure robed in gray.

"What's your name?"

"Martha, ma'am."

Apparently the cross-examination that followed was satisfactory to Miss Rachel Penrhyn, for she finally told Patty she might "come and try" at ten dollars a month.

What a change it was from the swarming city streets to the old Penrhyn house! "Martha," the new maid, settled into the grooves at once, as if she had lived all her life under Aunt Rachel's roof-tree.

"I believe I am going to like her," said Aunt Rachel. "But then, of course, a new broom sweeps clean."

"This is Mr. Ralph's room, is it?" said Martha, with her hands in her ruffled pockets, as she stood regarding the apartment that had just been opened to be dusted and aired.

"Yes, this is my nephew's room," said the old lady. "I've no family of my own, and Ralph seems very near to me."

"Dear me!" said Martha. "What a lot of photographs over the mantel."

Miss Rachel nodded.

"That middle one—it looks a little bit like you, Martha. I declare—"

"Does it?" lisped Martha, innocently, as she looked into her own smiling, saucy eyes.

"It's my nephew's sweetheart," went on the garrulous old lady, "the gal he loves the best in all the world."

"Are they engaged?" Martha asked, the tell-tale roses dyeing her cheek as she spoke.

"Well, no, not exactly. I guess she's rather pretty, but she's got nothing of her own, you see, and there's Almira Playfair—the one on the left-hand edge of the chimney—"

"The one with the twisted nose?" roguishly asked Martha.

"Her nose may be a little to one side, but Almira has \$50,000."

"My!" cried Martha, opening her eyes very wide. "I should think Mr. Ralph would marry her at once."

"So he ought," said Miss Rachel. "But he's just possessed in love with that little Peronel girl."

"That is noble of him. I respect him for it. I—I mean I should respect him for it if—"

"Well, I don't see what it is to you, one way or the other," tartly broke in Miss Rachel. Just give the room a good dusting, that's all I ask of you, for as like as not Ralph will be here to-night."

"I must go away this very evening, because if he should come and find me here— Oh, good gracious!"

She dropped her duster in dismay, for there stood Ralph before her.

"Patty," he cried, "is this the story of Cinderella and the little glass slipper?"

"No," she answered, coloring like a whole rose garden, "it's the story of a naughty girl who couldn't be satisfied without finding out whether—"

"Whether Ralph Penrhyn really loved her or not," he finished the hesitating sentence. "Well, what do you think?"—*New York News.*

PROVING THE POINT.

The plaintiff's barrister in the breach of promise case thought he would make life a burden to the unfortunate young man who was the unwilling defendant.

"Do you mean to say," he asked, after a lot of embarrassing questions, "that after you had been absent for an entire month, you did not kiss the plaintiff, to whom you were engaged to be married, when you first saw her on your return?"

"I do," responded the defendant, firmly.

"Will you make that statement to the jury?"

"Certainly, if necessary."

"Do you think that they would believe you?"

"One of them would, I know."

"Ah, indeed? And why should he, pray?"

"Because he was present when I first saw her. He was at the gate when I rode up, and she stuck her head out of the second-story window, and I said to her, 'How d'ye do?' and said I'd be back to supper in half an hour. I'm no giraffe," and everybody smiled except the barrister.

HER EYES.

Her eyes do speak a language pure and free,
As flowers that usher in the spring! To me
They speak of Hope, and Happiness, and Love,
With melting meekness of the gentle dove!
At other times they talk to me in tears,
But, lover-like, I banish all her fears!
Then smiles and gladness fill those loving eyes,
Like sunrise glances 'mid Italian skies!
In melting moods swift pass the hours away,
And in her presence night is brightest day!
For, while the windows of her soul give light,
All other orbs may vanish from the night!
Asleep! awake!—I see those love-lit eyes
Lead, light, and cheer my path to Paradise.
—John Inmie, Toronto, Canada.

STUDENTS WHO "MOVED."

Fifty years ago the faculty of a noted theological seminary announced that, by order of the Presbyterian General Assembly, students must *preach* their sermons and not *read* them, as no student would be allowed to take his manuscript into the pulpit. It was the custom then for each member of the senior class to deliver, during the term, one discourse for the criticism of his fellow-students and the presiding professor.

It happened that the first student to preach, after the promulgation of the rule, was a young man noted for his self-confidence and self-assertion; but, to the surprise of all present, his voice trembled as he gave out his text—the absence of the manuscript had made him fearful of failure—Acts xx. 24: "But none of these things move me." Then there was a pause, which indicated mental confusion. "None of these things move me," he repeated, with stammering tongue, and again there was a solemn pause.

Gathering himself up for a final effort, he shouted, nervously: "None of these things move me!" and stood, unable to utter another word.

"Pray, sir, what will move you?" asked the professor.

The young man moved rapidly down the pulpit stairs, amid the laughter of the students. The witty question seemed cruel, but it was the cut of a moral surgeon, who knew what he was about. From that evening the student began to cultivate humility.

The *Presbyterian Banner* tells of another theological student who was also "moved" by the pressure of extemporaneous discourse:

It is said that the late Mr. Spurgeon was in the habit of testing the ability and self-possession of the theological students under his care and instruction by sending them up into the pulpit with a sealed envelop in their hands, containing the text of the sermon or address each one was to deliver on the spur of the moment.

On one of these occasions the student, on opening his paper, found this subject and direction given him:

"Apply the story of Zaccheus to your own circumstances, and your call to the ministry." And the student promptly delivered himself in the following way:

"My brethren, the subject on which I have to address you to-day is a comparison between Zaccheus and my qualifications.

"Well, the first thing we read about Zaccheus is that he was small of stature; and I never felt so small as I do now.

"In the second place, we read that he was up in a tree, which is very much my position now.

"And thirdly, we read that Zaccheus made haste to come down; and in this I gladly and promptly follow his example."

THE BUSY WOMAN'S GARDEN.

The busy woman wants for her summer garden such flowers as will give the largest amount of bloom throughout the season with the least possible amount of care.

One of the best annuals is the phlox. It is of the very easiest culture. It begins to bloom early in the season. If prevented from developing seed, it blooms all summer. It comes in a great variety of colors and shades, from pure white to deep crimson. The two finest varieties are the white and the bright rose. Grow these colors in a bed by themselves, and you will be more pleased with the result than you will if you have half a dozen other colors in it.

The petunia is another easily grown plant. It blooms with wonderful freedom, and keeps at it till frost comes. If you go over the bed once a month and cut off the ends of the old branches, the supply of flowers will be greatly increased, as new branches will be sent out, on which a great many flowers will be produced. The colors range through all shades of rose and violet to pure white. Many varieties are blotched and marked in peculiar and striking ways. Some of the newer sorts are beautifully fringed and very large.

The calliopsis is a charming flower. It gives a great profusion of most showy, brilliant blossoms, some of a rich golden yellow with a maroon blotch at the base of each petal, others all maroon. It is excellent for cutting because of its long stems.

Every garden should have a bed of nasturtiums. If you want many flowers from this plant, do not give it a very rich soil. If you do, there will be a luxuriant growth of branches and foliage, but few blossoms. The dwarf varieties are best. This is an excellent plant to cut from. Its colors range from palest yellow to dark crimson and maroon.

Balsams are beautiful plants. Their flowers are like miniature roses in form, and they are produced in great numbers all along the

branches. The foliage is also profuse, and a great deal of it must be cut away in order to give the flowers a chance to display their beauty.

Of course, sweet-peas should be included in this list. So should the old morning-glory, which I consider our best flowering vine for general cultivation. It is of rapid growth, of the easiest culture, and what can be more beautiful than a great mass of it covered with its pink, white, crimson and blue "glories?" It is a plant whose popular name is a most appropriate one.—*Harper's Bazar.*

OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN.

Do you know that raising flower seed for market can be made a very paying business, if one puts sufficient work and care into it? In almost every part of our land there are fairs held, where the best in the line of floriculture receives liberal premium. First of all, set aside some choice plants and "train" them for competition; then—well, for instance, raise sweet-pea, pansy, aster and phlox seed for the home market. Go to a dealer in flower seed in your town or community, tell him what you are doing and ask him to give your seed a trial.

"Mighty ends from small beginnings," you know. Improve your strains year after year; add to your varieties; put only good seed on the market; advertise in your local paper, and by and by you will have built for yourself a business and have been earning something all the time.

I have been much interested in the success of a few men whose sweet-pea enterprises have become public. One gentleman raised three tons of the seed last year, and sold it at a good profit. The fame of a ministerial sweet-pea garden in Massachusetts has spread all over the world. It is said that a seed-house in Germany—the largest in the world—has lately bought seed of this same gentleman, who undertook the culture of this, his favorite flower, with no thought of monetary reward, but for outdoor exercise. He gives all his profits to the cause of missions.

Now, it has always seemed to me that floriculture is pre-eminently woman's work, and I recommend it to girls as a source of profit as well as pleasure.—*American Agriculturist.*

ORIGIN OF VARIOUS THINGS.

We have peach from Persia, in which country it is actually held to be a poison. In our climate it has lost, by transplantation, much of its original coarseness, and has become one of our choicest fruits.

The plum was brought from Syria at the Crusades.

Rabbits were held in such high estimation that they were brought to the table as a very rare dish. They increased to such an extent in Spain that they were suspected of mining the houses of Tarragona, so as to cause some parts of them to fall.

Oysters were looked upon by the Romans as a "dainty dish," and the poet Antonions has celebrated them in his verses. After the death of this poet, however, oysters were no more thought of, and it was not until the beginning of the sixteenth century that they were again brought to notice.

Parmesan cheese appeared in the more northern part of Europe for the first time in the reign of Charles VII. of France. This prince, it would appear, in an expedition against Naples, had occasion to pass through Placenza, when the magistrates offered him some of these cheeses, the enormous size of which so greatly astonished him, that out of curiosity he sent a number of them to the Queen and to the Duke of Bourbon. These royal persons, venturing to taste them, found them so excellent that from that time the Parmesan cheese has ranked among the finest that can grace a royal table.

Sweetmeats were much used to bribe persons of quality, or judges to whom a request was to be made. This custom at last rose to such a pitch that Louis IX. of France issued a proclamation forbidding all judges to take more than ten penny worth a week. Phillip the Handsome subsequently curtailed this quantity to no more than a man could use in one day.

EVOLUTION OF TABLE MANNERS.


How did table manners arise? Where do they come from? Like Topsy and other human institutions, they "just grew." And it is surprising how slow of development has been the sentiment of cleanliness and neatness, which was the principal cause of the invention of the implements and dishes used in serving food and in eating.

In good old paleolithic times, when human beings were always within twenty-four hours of starvation, man ate only with his fingers. He hunted for his food in the woods or by the sea-shore, and he picked the bones clean. Two table articles are found among uncivilized peoples—the knife and the spoon. The knife was originally a weapon of attack or defense; it was used for eating and carving flesh, but its convenience in eating soon became apparent.

The origin of the spoon is uncertain. It must have been invented at a very ancient date, for it is found among people that have never come into contact with civilization. The necessity of having some implement for dipping water seems to have led first to the invention of the calabash, or the use of the coconut-shell, and later on to the spoon.

We must wait four thousand years before

DISSTON'S



Send for Pamphlet, or "Saw Book," mailed free. HENRY DISSTON & SONS, Philadelphia, Pa.



Get a Glass! Quick!!

There's lots of snap and vim in this HIRES' ROOT-BEER. There's lots of pleasure and good health in it, too. A delicious drink, a temperance drink, a home-made drink, a drink that delights the old and young. Be sure and get the genuine

HIRES' Rootbeer

A 25 cent package makes 5 gallons. Sold everywhere.

The Chas. E. Hires Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

we find the fork. Or, as a French writer on table etiquette has said, "from the creation of the world to the beginning of the seventeenth century man ate only with his fingers." This is, however, a mistake of four hundred years; for we find forks as early as the thirteenth century, when they are mentioned as being kept for special purposes. Thus, John, duke of Brittany, is said to have used a fork to pick up "soppys," and Piers Graveston had three for eating pears with.—*Lee J. Vance, in April Lippincott's.*

HOW TO COOL A CELLAR.

A great mistake is sometimes made in ventilating cellars and milk-houses. The object of ventilation is to keep the cellars cool and dry; but this object often fails of being accomplished by a common mistake, and instead the cellar is made both warm and damp. A cool place should never be ventilated, unless the air admitted is cooler than the air within, or is at least as cool as that, or a very little warmer. The warmer the air, the more moisture it holds in suspension. Necessarily, the cooler the air, the more this moisture is condensed and precipitated. When a cool cellar is aired on a warm day, the entering air being in motion appears cool, but as it fills the cellar, the cooler air with which it becomes mixed chills it, the moisture is condensed, and dew is deposited on the cold walls and may often be seen running down them in streams. Then the cellar is damp and soon becomes moldy. To avoid this, the windows should only be opened at night, and late—the last thing before retiring. There is no need to fear that the night air is unhealthy—it is as pure as the air of midday, and is really drier. The cool air enters the apartment during the night, and circulates through it. The windows should be closed before sunrise in the morning, and kept closed and shaded through the day. If the air of the cellar is damp, it may be thoroughly dried by placing in it a peck of fresh lime in an open box, and the *National Builder* adds, a peck of lime will absorb about seven pounds, or more than three quarts, of water, and in this way a cellar or milk-house may soon be dried, even in the hottest weather.

DON'T STOP TOBACCO.
How to Cure Yourself While Using It.

The tobacco habit grows on a man until his nervous system is seriously affected, impairing health, comfort and happiness. To quit suddenly is too severe a shock to the system, as tobacco, to an inveterate user becomes a stimulant that his system continually craves. Baco-Curo is a scientific cure for the tobacco habit in all its forms, carefully compounded after the formula of an eminent Berlin physician who has used it in his private practice since 1872 without a failure, purely vegetable and guaranteed perfectly harmless. You can use all the tobacco you want while taking Baco-Curo, it will notify you when to stop. We give a written guarantee to permanently cure any case with three boxes, or refund the money with 10 per cent interest. Baco-Curo is not a substitute, but a scientific cure, that cures without the aid of will power and with no inconvenience. It leaves the system as pure and free from nicotine as the day you took your first chew or smoke. Sold by all druggists, with our iron-clad guarantee, at \$1.00 per box, three boxes (thirty days treatment) \$2.50, or sent direct upon receipt of price. SEND SIX TWO-CENT STAMPS FOR SAMPLE BOX. BOOKLET AND PROOFS FREE. Enreka Chemical & Manufacturing Company, Manufacturing Chemists, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

It will pay you to buy a Saw with "DISSTON" on it. It will hold the set longer, and do more work without filing than other saws, thereby saving in labor and cost of files. They are made of the best quality crucible cast steel, and are

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All stem wind and stem set. These are hard times prices, but we must do business. Send us your order and we will ship the watch by express for to examine, and if you do not find it just as represented and equal to any watch you ever saw retailed at two or three times our price, send it pay agent, but if satisfied pay the express agent the price of watch and express charges and it is yours. Cash with order saves express charges.

Description: A Genuine Dueber Silverine case, gents full size, made compact and strong with two back caps to protect the works. Will keep its color and wear a lifetime. (Best watch made for hard usage.) Fitted complete with a good running imported stem wind and stem set jeweled movement \$2.95, same with 7-jeweled Trenton warranted for 5 years \$3.25. 11-jeweled Springfield, \$3.95. 15-jeweled Elgin or Waltham, good for a lifetime, \$7.25. In ordering state which is wanted and mention the price. We sell good watches only and our prices are below all others. Order at once or cut out this adv., it may not appear again. Address B. H. KIRK & CO., Wholesale Jewelers, 172 Washington St., CHICAGO, ILL.



BASE BALL. HOW TO PLAY IT.

A Great Book, contains all the rules; also the secret of pitching curved balls, and to bat successfully. Rules for Football and Tennis. Every player should have it. Entirely new and handsomely illustrated. This Great Book Free to any one sending us 10 cents to pay postage. Also Catalogue Guns, Revolvers, Musical Instruments, Magic Tricks. All for 10c. Order quick. For \$1.25 we will send our Base Ball Outfit, consisting of 9 Caps, 9 Belts, 1 Ball, 1 Bat. BATESPORTING CO., 100 High St., Boston, Mass.

NERVE FOOD

Send for a package of The famous and Precious Remedy Free. Dr. J.A. McGill, 3 and 5 Hubbard Court, Chicago, Ill

SUMMER SCHOOL

Ohio State University.
6 Weeks, July 8-August 17, 1895.
12 Departments—39 Courses of Instruction. For circular Address Prof. A. C. Barrows, Columbus, Ohio.

DON'T TOSS THE BABY.

The common practice of tossing a baby in the air to amuse it is a dangerous one, for the slightest spring of the child as it leaves the hand is enough to dash it to the floor. Although the cases where accidents have occurred from this cause are not alarmingly frequent, they are serious enough to command attention. A writer in *Baby*, in speaking of the matter, gives several instances she has known where children have been injured in this way. A gay young father snatched up his baby boy one morning and tossed him to the ceiling. Twice the little fellow went flying through the air and came down safely. The third time the excited child gave a spring of delight as his father's hands released him, plunging forward and pitching over the father's shoulder, fell head downward to the floor. When the poor child came out of the unconscious state, in which he lay for hours, it was found that, although no bones had been broken, the brain had sustained an injury. Another baby tossed into the air received a fatal wound in the top of the head from the pointed ornament of a chandelier, and another child slipped between her father's hands as he caught her in her downward flight, and although his frenzied grasp on baby's arm saved her from falling on the ground, it strained the muscles and sinews so that the girl's arm was shrunk and practically useless to her all her life. A celebrated French literary man of the present day is a very deformed hunchback owing to a fall received when being tossed by his nurse.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS TO THE WEST.

On May 21st and June 11th, The North-Western Line (Chicago & North-Western Railway) will sell excursion tickets at very low rates to a large number of points in the West and Northwest. For full information apply to ticket agents of connecting lines, or address C. Traver, T. P. A., Marine National Bank Building, Pittsburg, Pa.; F. M. Snively, T. P. A., 151 St. Clair street, Cleveland, Ohio.

Our Household.

PLEASURE.

Pleasure is like perfect liquor,
Sweet to taste and after-taste,
And like, too, in that when gotten
We imbibe too much, then waste,
And we find when pleasure passes
Life is empty as the glasses.

—Stigmund Blumann.

HOME TOPICS.

MILKING.—Not long since I heard a farmer say, "I believe milking is fast becoming a lost art. It is almost impossible to

would beg for "just one flower." This, with the sight of the great quantity of flowers in suburban gardens, which bloomed and faded, wasting their sweetness there, gave her the idea of a plan by which the poor, the sick and wretched ones of the city might be cheered and blessed by the bright blossoms.

On the first Sunday in May, 1869, a notice was read in several of the Boston churches inviting those who had flowers to spare to send them to the Hollis street church. This was the beginning of the flower mission, a work which has gone steadily on until there is now an organization in every

to rise. When a thick, white scum rises to the top, it is ready to use. Cover, and set away in a cool, dark place. For four three-pint-basin loaves take three pints of the yeast—no other wetting—stir in a batter, and in an hour it is light enough to mold into a loaf. If this is covered with an inverted pan, no tough crust will form. When light, mold only enough to shape into loaves. They are light enough to bake when no dent remains from the pressure of the finger on the surface. In winter, warm the flour; in summer it is not necessary.

Taken from *Orange Judd Farmer*, signed A. C. P., and I think it the best and easiest bread-making I have ever tried.

MRS. V. G. J.
Belleville, Ill.

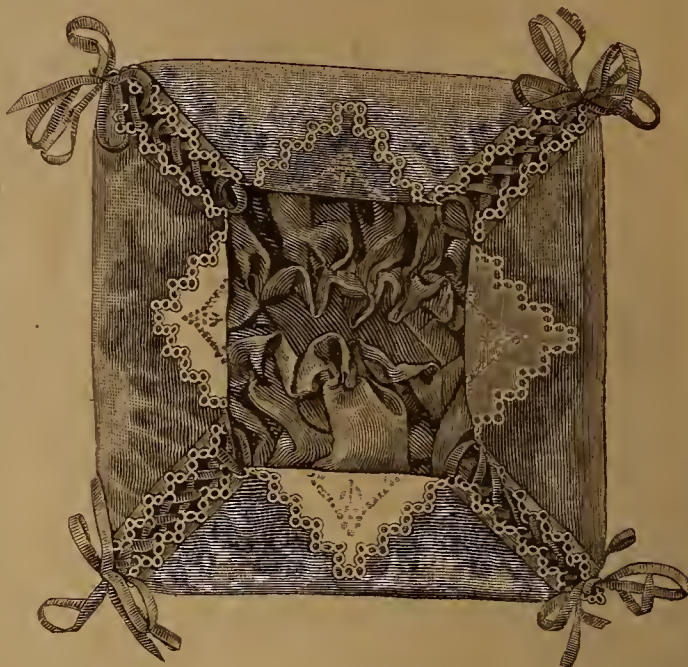
SEWING HINTS.

If one is troubled by the buttonholes in children's clothing tearing out, when making a garment, put a strip of the goods where the buttonholes come, making two or four extra thicknesses, then work with a little coarser thread than usual, putting the stitches in closely, and there will be no further trouble.

If the buttons come off or tear out, put in from four to six extra thicknesses of the material where each button is to be sewed on, and use good linen thread, filling the eyes of the button full, and they will neither come off nor tear out.

Make a list of odd jobs of mending, or other little things not requiring immediate attention that can be used as "pick-up work." Then when some one comes in, and does not wish to sit with idle hands, by referring to the list one knows at once what to do without taking their thoughts from their caller.

broken in it, can be mended by pasting a heavy muslin over it on the inside, then filling the hole with soft putty and letting stand until dry and hard. Paste another piece of the muslin over the hole on the outside and paint both inside and outside, and it will be as good as new.



HANDKERCHIEF-CASE.

Some one has said that "The world affects us according to the mood we are in." What about our moods? Are they not largely controlled by the will? If so, and we give our wills the task, could we not always live in such a "mood" that the world would seem to us a pretty good place? Not only this, but if in the right mood we could make it a better place on account of our having been in it. It is certainly worth thinking about.

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERTS.

TOILET ADORNMENTS.

After house cleaning we all like to add something new and clean to our toilet.

Very pretty mats can be made of crape paper in any color to suit the rest of the room. Weave the inner part in basket

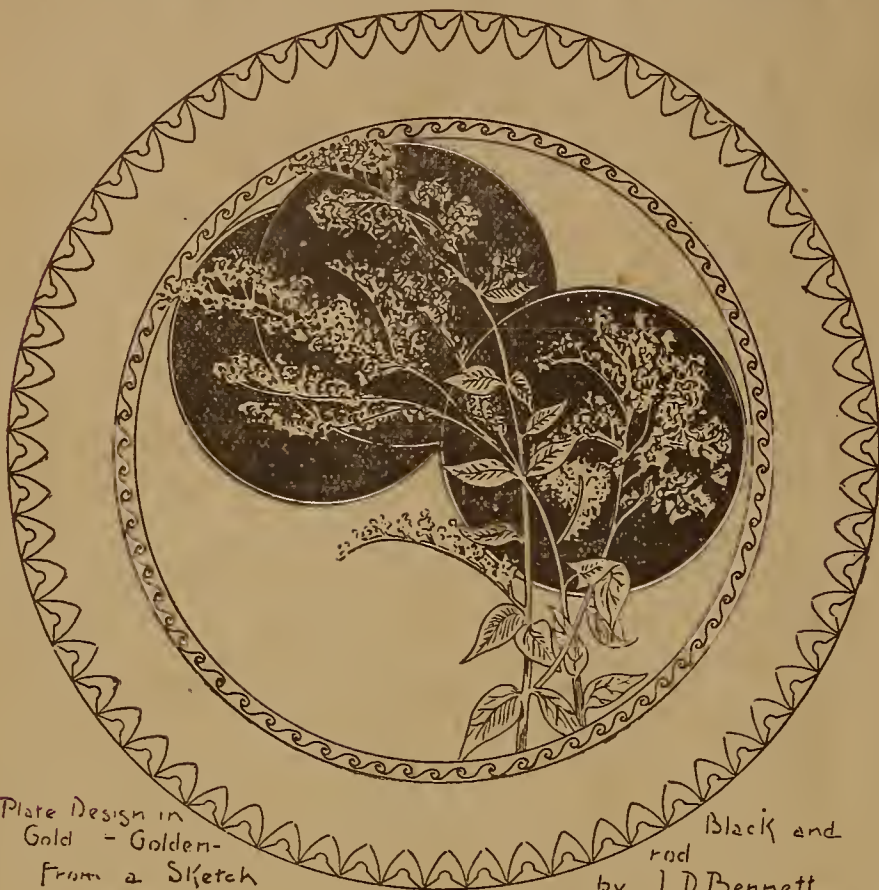


Plate Design in
Gold - Goldenrod
From a Sketch

Black and
red
by I. D. Bennett.

find a hired man who is a good milker." A poor, slow milker will spoil cows however good, and an impatient, ill-natured milker is even worse. Skill and a kindly manner are essential qualities, but neatness is no less so. The milker should see that his hands and the cow's udder are perfectly clean. I have seen milkers, to make their work easier, milk on their hands at first, and afterward dip their fingers into the milk-pail two or three times while milking. This is a filthy habit, and will injure the quality not only of the milk, but the butter made from it. When you have a new hand milking, it is best to watch him for awhile, until you are sure he is cleanly about the work, for if not, no after-care can atone for carelessness at milking-time.

FLOWER MISSIONS.—It is not many years

large city, and flowers are distributed through the hospitals, reformatory institutions and crowded workrooms, where eager hands are outstretched to receive them, and where they work a refining and civilizing influence. In many country and suburban places not only are garden flowers sent, but the children help along the good work by sending large quantities of wild flowers to the city flower missions for distribution.

This is a good work in which to enlist the children, but I want to give them a word of caution about gathering wild flowers. Be sure and leave some of the annuals to produce seed for next summer's flowers, and do not pull any flowers up by the roots, or our fields and woodlands will soon be destitute of flowers. I know a hillside that used to be covered by the trailing arbutus, where now scarce one of its little pink blossoms can be found, because careless flower-gatherers have, year after year, ruthlessly torn the little plants up by the roots.

MAIDA McL.

DESIGNS FOR PLATES IN CHINA-PAINTING.

For the benefit of those of our readers interested in this charming work, we give two choice designs for plates. The disks are painted in mat-black, with decoration of goldenrod on one and blue gentian on the other. The edges in conventional design in gold lines. Those working in this art will understand the treatment.

TESTED RECIPE.

GOOD YEAST (no over-night raising).—Pare twelve medium-sized potatoes and cook in sufficient boiling water to keep them well covered. While they are cooking, take one pint of flour, one teaspoonful each of salt and sugar, wet with enough water to make a smooth paste, pour over it two quarts of boiling water, and cook till it looks clear like starch. Pass through a colander into a two-gallon jar. When

the potatoes are well done, pass through the colander, too, also the water in which they are boiled. Fill the jar within a finger's length of the top. When this mixture is lukewarm, stir in four dried yeast-cakes that have been previously soaked (or a pint of baker's yeast) and set in a warm place



Plate Design
Gold - Blue
From a Sketch

in Black and
Gentian -
by I. D. Bennett.

Put a strap of some soft material on the bottom of the children's undershirts that are worn inside their stockings, so it will come under the foot, and hold the drawers in place while the stockings are being drawn on. It must not be heavy enough to form a fold, and thus hurt the bottom of the foot after the shoe is on.

A fiber tub or pail that has had a hole

pattern, and put a rubber band to finish it. A whole bureau-top can be made the same way, if desired. The paper is ten cents a yard, or fifty cents a bolt.

For the handkerchief-case, get a pretty handkerchief with an openwork border, use this for the inside, and for the outside make a square of thin silk over cotton batting to fit up to the border. On the inside,



YOUNG MATRON'S TOILET.

since the first flower mission was started by a young school-teacher in Boston. She lived in the suburbs, and being an ardent lover of flowers, she brought with her each morning a bunch of blossoms from her home garden. Day after day she was met by ragged, dirty, unkempt children, who



Cuts, Scratches, Sprains,

and all pains, external
or internal, are instantly
relieved by

PERRY DAVIS' Pain Killer.

This old remedy is known, used
and sold everywhere. Get it and
keep it by you.

after folding it in shape, put two pockets of the silk. Put sachet-powder between the cotton and the silk. Lace it up at the corners with baby ribbon. L. L. C.

TOILETS.

The two gowns we illustrate are easily made from any plain waist and skirt pattern; noting the trimming.



WALKING-COSTUME.

The cloth walking-costume is trimmed with white cloth and black velvet, with a crush collar of the velvet.

The house gown has elbow sleeves, and the top of the bodice of silk like the skirt, with the bodice and trimming of black velvet.

Neck trimmings of illusion or net are always becoming to ladies turning on to maturity, and are a very necessary accessory to dressing becomingly. L. L. C.

CONVENIENCES FOR THE SICK ROOM.

After the danger is over, and an invalid on the highroad to recovery, a nurse's ingenuity is often taxed to the uttermost to provide conveniences to suit the caprices of her patient, especially if that patient is inclined to be whimsical, and the convalescence of long duration.

The few following articles will be very acceptable to either the rich or poor, and may be "fancy-finished," or of the very simplest and plainest materials and workmanship, as the condition of finances in the family allows.



HOUSE GOWN.

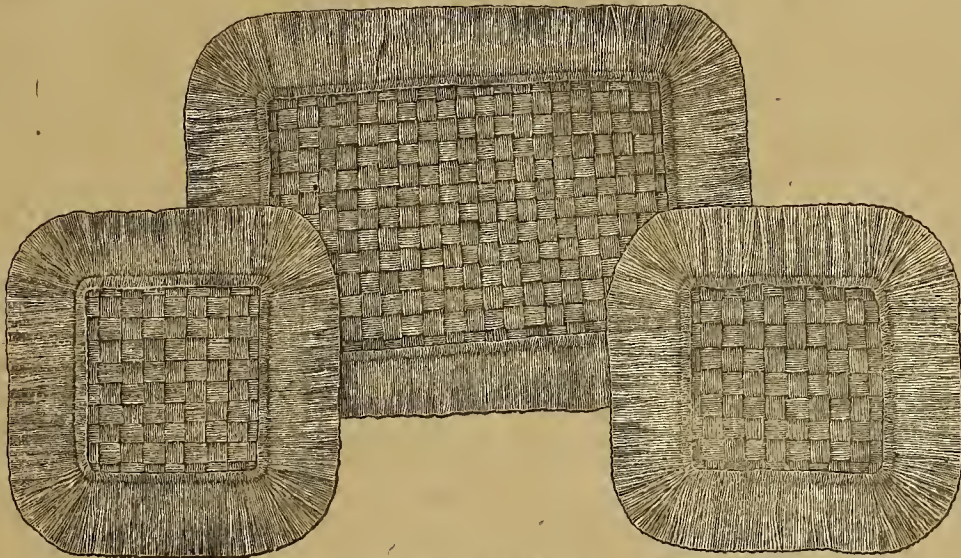
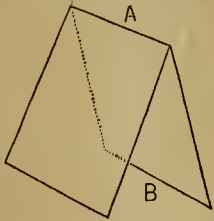
After the patient was beyond the era of "spoon rattles" and slop, and could take meals sitting up in bed, don't you remember what times you used to have in securing a comfortable position for him, either

with chairs turned upside down at his back, or a lot of pillows piled up?

Well, take two boards, about fifteen inches wide and two or three feet long, (according to the length of the patient's back), and bevel an end of each so that they may come together and form a V, thus: Connect at the top (A) with a hinge of some sort, that the angle of the boards may be varied to suit the will of the patient. A wide strip of leather tacked securely over the top will answer the purpose as well as boughten hinges. If the latter are used, there should be two of them at least; and have arms that extend down onto the board well, as the upper edges are cut down quite thin, you know, and the boards must be fastened together very securely at the top, as they may have to support considerable weight. The board at the back (A B) does not need to be as wide its whole length as the one the patient rests against. It can be cut away or tapered to five or six inches in width at the bottom (B), and this will lessen the weight and make it easier to handle. It can be left unadorned, or painted, or padded and covered, as the fancy of the owner dictates.

Put a pillow between the rest and the patient's back, and then raise him to any degree in a sitting posture that he wishes, as the angle of the boards may be varied innumera bly.

When not in use, the rest can be folded together and slipped under the bed or



GRAPE PAPER MATS.

bureau or any out-of-the-way corner. A patient is got into place (either up or down) with its use so much easier and quicker than in the old manner of propping.

A companion piece to the above rest is the "bed-table." Take a board one half of an inch thick, ten or twelve inches wide, and about two feet long, and a few inches from each end fasten a cleat across, in which has been bored a hole at either end that a broom-handle will fit into. There will thus be a place at each corner of the board for a table-leg to be fastened. These are nice cut from a broom-handle, and may be as long as the height of the table is desired—probably ten or twelve inches.

When the table is set in front of the patient, it should be high enough to clear the limbs nicely, that a slight movement of them may not upset the contents of the table.

This little convenience will be found very useful to hold a tray of food, or as the patient gets stronger, it makes a place upon which to write letters, or will be a nice resting-place for books or papers as the invalid reads or looks at engravings.

I think an article that will save the nurse the most steps, and give an invalid much pleasure, is the bag or pocket, made of blue denim or canvas-lined plush (material no object), which can be fastened to the side-rail of the bed, or at the headboard, within easy reach of the invalid. It should be nine or ten inches long and five or six inches deep. Dimensions can be varied to suit the fancy. What a convenient receptacle for handkerchief (one is always getting lost in bed), a comb, brush, hand-mirror, pocket-knife, lead-pencil, or innumerable little articles that a patient is sure to want if a nurse happens to be in another room! It surely is a saving of time and steps to have them where one can help himself. And really, the contents of this bed-pocket are apt to be as mixed a lot as those found in the trousers' pocket of the small boy with his first pair of pants, but hardly think it will be put to the use which one small boy adopted.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

His father had been making mortar to be used in plastering. One day his auntie saw him out at the sand-pile with a little can of water. She watched him dip up the sand and fill that wonderful new pocket, and then up came the can of water to pour in, too.

"Johnny, what are you doing?"

"Makin' mortar, auntie, like papa do."

"Well, but he does not make it in his pockets!"

"Oh, I didn't fink o' that! I had to fill my potiet wif sometins."

I will mention some other articles in a future letter, as six months' illness gave plenty of time to invent conveniences for both nurse and patient; but the fear of a too lengthy article will prevent my describing any more at this time.

GYPSY.

WITH THE HOUSEKEEPER.

To USE FAT MEAT.—Cut in very thin slices and put in the bottom of a stew, kettle with a pint of water. Let it boil ten or fifteen minutes, and add enough potatoes for the meal that have been pared

and small onions for the dinner, a pint or more of the liquor in which the meat was cooked, and bake until the onions and potatoes are done. When serving it, only slice as much as will be eaten at that meal. The next morning for breakfast, slice the cold meat and put on to warm in a frying-pan. Sprinkle on it as much sugar as one would use if it were salt. Turn and sprinkle the other side, and turn again, as the sugar causes it to brown beautifully, as well as giving it a most delightful flavor. Remove to a hot platter, and to the fryings in the pan add a tablespoonful of flour; with the back of the spoon smooth this in the hot fat until free from lumps; then add a pint of sweet milk, stir until it boils, add salt and pepper, let cook two minutes, and serve hot in a gravy-boat.

Cut slices of salt pork rather thin, put in the frying-pan with about a quart of cold water. When it reaches the boiling-point, turn, boil one minute, then take up and turn out the water. The parboiling renders the meat fresh and sweet and far more palatable. Before returning it to the pan to fry, roll it in flour, corn-meal or very fine bread crumbs, then fry, or better still, dip first in well-beaten egg, then in the flour, corn-meal or bread crumbs, and fry a rich golden brown, and serve with a gravy made as just directed.

LITTLE HELPFUL HINT.—If, on dishing some articles of food, it is found that some of the contents have cooked fast to the bottom of the vessel, rendering the washing of it a difficult task, as soon as the contents are removed, put a pint or more of boiling water in it, cover closely, and steam, and by the time one is ready to wash it, it will be so softened as to be readily and easily done. C. S. E.

DEAFNESS CANNOT BE CURED

By local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure Deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

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MOTHERS SEE HERE.

I will Cure your Girl or Boy of Bed-wetting in two weeks. Send me \$1.00 for the Medicine or Prescription, either one. Particulars free. DR. S. C. CLARK, 15 Court Sq., Boston, Mass.

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MENTION THIS PAPER WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS.

Our Household.

AS WE MAKE THEM.

AFTER all, are not our lives much as we make them? When in college a favorite theme for debate in our literary societies was, "Do circumstances make the man, or man the circumstances?" There is much to be said on both sides, it is true, but can we not, as mothers, do much toward fashioning our own circumstances?

Our surroundings may be far from what we would desire, or our lives on the surface may partake much more of the monotonous or even drudgery than we would wish. And yet may the inner truer being not be moderately tranquil after all? And should we not all make a great effort that it should be so? We all know how very easy it is for us to become impatient if we are "just tired to death," and we are wont to blame ourselves for our seeming lack of self-control. But the wear and tear of motherhood is so constant, so exhausting, that unless we can obtain help from sources outside of ourselves, we will at times become well nigh discouraged. I have seen the statement somewhere that "impatience proceeds from weakness," and I believe in many instances this is true.

Fitful, uncontrolled action indicates "a screw loose somewhere." Impatience is a "loose screw," caused by overwork. There is no rattling or rumbling about an engine which is complete in all its parts.

"The deep, full river flows quietly in spite of the obstructions in its channel bottoms; it is the shallow stream which frets and tosses to the view because of the rocks."

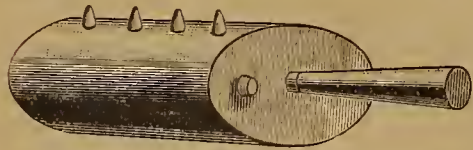
The strong, healthy mind, with a body in correspondingly as good condition, is enabled to move right on, apparently taking no note of the obstructions that lie in its course. Much has been said of late about the prevalence of insanity among farmers' wives, and the reason assigned for it is the loneliness, the endless monotony of their lives.

It is a well-known fact that a horse can travel over a hilly road more easily than one perfectly level, because different muscles are brought into play.

Women require recreation. If the same powers are called into action day after day, week in and week out, they will not be able to withstand the tension that is put upon them.

Variety is not only the spice of life, but it is an essential to health. Church work, intellectual pursuits, society demands—entered into with moderation—all serve to meet the demand for greater variety of interests, and drive from the mind the rust which otherwise would accumulate from disuse of the powers. How often is the weary body rested, while the spirit is being refreshed at a prayer-meeting.

"The mother who scolds and finds fault with everything is really scolding and finding fault with herself." She is not cogni-



PRINCESS HAIR DRYER AND BURNISHER.

zant of the fact that a little recreation on her part would render the atmosphere around of an entirely different nature. The fretfulness and irritability would disappear as if by magic. Mothers everywhere are overworked and have cause for impatience, but is there not a partial remedy somewhere? Is it right to allow the homemaker to be entirely swallowed up in the housekeeping? They two must go hand in hand in creating the holy atmosphere of home. We can overdo the housekeeping element of this union; not so the homemaking.

Our love for the children, the desire for their best good, the determination to keep in touch with their active, inquisitive natures, should overbalance our dislike for a little out-of-placeness and "clean dirt," which is necessary to the perfect development of children. It is a great mistake, however, for mothers to pick up and put away the toys when the children have tired of them. The little ones should be

early instructed to do this for themselves. By a little judicious tact they may be made to enjoy this feature as much as the play.

The children also should be taught to perform certain definite duties, thus saving the mother many steps. We cannot expect our children to be thoughtful for our comfort when old, if we have never taught them to work during their childhood. ELLA BARTLETT SIMMONS.

THE PRINCESS HAIR DRYER AND BURNISHER.

This admirable invention will be found invaluable by ladies whose hair, being long, have difficulty in getting it quickly dried after washing, and who may therefore suffer from neuralgia. By using the "Princess hair-dryer" this is avoided, and



SHOWING HOW THE DRYER IS USED.

washing the hair is no longer to be feared as a tedious operation. In form and size it resembles a nickel-silver hair-brush, into which hot water can be poured through an aperture in the handle, fastening with a screw stopper, four conical teeth or knobs representing the bristle side of the brush. After rough-drying the hair with a towel, these teeth are passed through the hair, and afterward the smooth side is used, which not only dries, but imparts a beautiful gloss to the hair, and allows it to crimp with greater facility, while it does not injure the hair like hot irons. As a toilet requisite it is indispensable; for invalids its soothing qualities would make it a boon, and for those in health it would be considered a luxury.

KUCHEN.

Take a bowl and break into it one egg, one half cupful of lard, one half cupful of sour cream and three tablespoonfuls of sugar, mix; now take a lump of your bread dough—when it is ready for making into loaves—the size of one loaf, pour the mixture upon it, and mix thoroughly with your hand until it is perfectly smooth, then let it rise. When light, roll out to about twice the thickness of a pie-crust and line your pie-plates with it; when you have as many plates as you want, roll them into sheets about an inch thick and put into pans; let it rise while you prepare the filling, as follows: Fill the pies with fruit. Grapes—one layer, not too close—are nice, or apples, pared, cored and sliced and laid upon it in one layer, are good, but peaches sliced upon it are best. Now pour over the contents of the pies—kuchen—one egg for each two kuchen, mixed with about one cupful of sweet cream. Use sugar to taste, and flavor the apples to suit yourself. Bake until they are a nice brown over the top. The thick kuchen are to be covered with a little butter and sprinkled well with sugar and a little cinnamon. These will be the German coffee kuchen. Get some German to pronounce kuchen for you. E. C. K. Chippewa Lake, Ohio.

WASHING-FLUID.

Dissolve one pound of concentrated lye in two gallons of water, then add four ounces of salts of tartar and four ounces of carbonate of ammonia; keep in a jug. Use one cupful to a boiler of water, or more if the water is hard. L. H.

I have ordered six patterns from you, and am delighted with them. I shall do all I can to get new subscribers for your paper. FANNIE KING, Charleston, Ark.

ACUTE DYSPEPSIA.

SYMPATHETIC HEART DISEASE OFTEN ATTENDS IT—THE MODERN TREATMENT CONSISTS IN REMOVING THE CAUSE.

(From the Republican, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.)

Mrs. V. Curley, who has resided in Clarence, Iowa, for the past twenty-two years, tells an interesting story of what she considers rescue from premature death. Her narrative is as follows:

"For ten years prior to 1894, I was a constant sufferer from acute stomach trouble. I had all the manifold symptoms of acute dyspepsia, and at times other troubles were present in complication—I did not know what it was to enjoy a meal. No matter how careful I might be as to the quality, quantity and preparation of my food, distress always followed eating. I was despondent and blue. Almost to the point of insanity at times, and would have been glad to die. Often and often I could not sleep. Sympathetic heart trouble set in and time and again I was obliged to call a doctor in the night to relieve sudden attacks of suffocation which would come on without a moment's warning.

"My troubles increased as time wore on, and I spent large sums in doctor bills, being compelled to have medical attendants almost constantly. During 1892 and 1893, it was impossible for me to retain food, and water brushes plagued me. I was reduced to a skeleton. A consultation of physicians was unable to determine just what did ail me. The doctors gave us as their opinion that the probable trouble was ulceration of the coats of the stomach and held out no hope of recovery. One doctor said, 'All I can do to relieve your suffering is by the use of opium.'

"About this time a friend of mine, Mrs. Symantha Smith, of Gliddin, Iowa, told me about the case of Mrs. Thurston, of Oxford Junction, Iowa. This lady said she had been afflicted much the same as I had. She had consulted local physicians without relief, and had gone to Davenport for treatment. Giving up all hope of recovery, she was persuaded by a friend to take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. The result was almost magical.

"I was led to try them from her experience, and before many months I felt better than I had for a dozen years. I am now almost free from trouble, and if through some error of diet I feel badly, this splendid remedy sets me right again. I have regained my strength and am once more in my usual flesh. I sleep well and can eat without distress. I have no doubt that I owe my recovery to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I only wish that I had heard of them years ago, thereby saving myself ten years of suffering and much money."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are for sale by all druggists, or may be had by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., for 50c. per box, or six boxes for \$2.50.

Mothers

have never found a preparation so well adapted to the needs of thin, delicate children, as Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil, with Hypophosphites.

Children almost universally like the taste of it, which makes its administration easy, and it supplies their blood with the food properties that overcome wasting tendencies.

Scott's Emulsion enriches the blood, promotes the making of healthy flesh, and aids in a healthy formation of the bones.

Don't be persuaded to accept a substitute.

Scott & Bowne, N. Y. All Druggists. 50c. and \$1.

CONSUMPTION

TO THE EDITOR—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy free to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and post office address. T. A. Slocum, M. C., 183 Pearl St., New York.

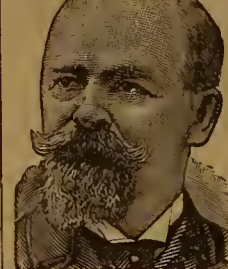
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even if left in it. Price 15c., at all Stoves, Hardware, & House Furnishing Dealers, or mailed postpaid for 30 cts. Every Lifter marked "Alaska." None other genuine. We will not be responsible for bad results from inferior goods. TROY NICKEL WORKS, Troy, N. Y.

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PLACE HER ON YOUR HAND, THEN WATCH HER! She twists, turns, stands, falls, and thus

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THE WITCH Will astonish OF ENDOR you, and afford you any amount of fun. Just the thing to convulse a crowd with laughter. Every movement has a meaning, and if you place her on your sweetheart's hand and watch her turnings and twistings, and refer to the printed directions they will tell you whether she thinks him or her passionate or amiable, constant or changeable, jealous, cold, diligent, energetic, fearless, etc. They will also tell what she thinks of you.

Send 10 cents in silver and receive two witches; also learn how to make a few dollars easily. Address

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In three chapters.



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Postage one cent extra.

The patterns are all of the very latest New York styles, and are unequalled for style, accuracy of fit, simplicity and economy. For twenty-five years these patterns have been used the country over. Full descriptions and directions—as the number of yards of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment

to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a *separate* pattern for every single piece of the dress. Your order will be filled the same day it is received.

You can order any of the patterns offered in the back numbers of this paper.

For ladies, give **BUST** measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give **WAIST** measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give **BREAST** measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. To get **BUST** and **BREAST** measure, put the tape measure **ALL** of the way around the body, over the dress close under the arms.

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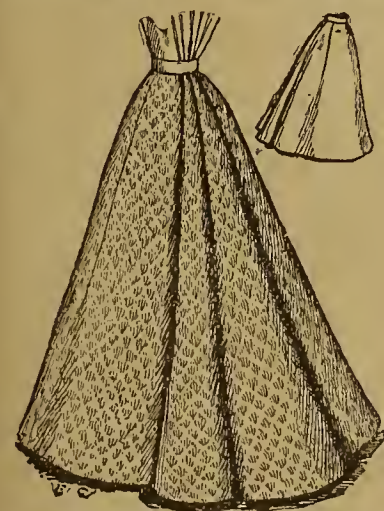
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Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



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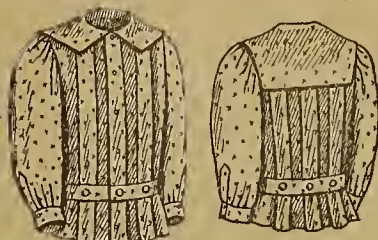
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Sizes, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 inches breast measure.
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No. 6347.—MISSSES' SHIRT-WAIST.
Sizes, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches breast measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

No. 6349.—SAME PATTERN—LADIES' SIZE.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.



No. 6197.—LADIES' BLOUSE WAIST.
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Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure.
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Sizes, 18, 20, 22 and 24 inches breast measure.
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No. 6186.—LADIES' HOUSE GOWN. 12 cents.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.

Ladies in delicate health will fully appreciate the comfort and utility of a gown of this style.



No. 6361.—MISSSES' SHIRT-WAIST.
Sizes, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches breast measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

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Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.
Regular price, 25 cents; price to you, 11 cents.

When I get these patterns they will make six patterns I have had of you. I am very much pleased with the ones I have already had.

Respectfully yours,
MRS. F. J. LEWIS, Copopa, Ohio.

The pattern gave a perfect fit.
NELLIE MORGAN, Eureka, Ill.

NOTICE.

We receive many orders for patterns without any name or post-office address signed, hence we cannot fill the orders. If any of our readers have not received their patterns, and will write us a letter giving the full particulars so we can verify their order, we will be glad to look them up and fill them immediately.

Do not fail to give size wanted.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

COUNSEL.

Be not too bold, nor yet too meek;
Of friends, I pray, few favors seek;
Be not too quick to disagree,
And slower still be faults to see.

Thy secret grief, forbear, forbear,
To others tell—with little care
They listen, not to give offense,
And pity but thy lack of sense.

All envy from thy heart expel,
Bid ears of thine with haste rebel
'Gainst slander vile—true honor hold
Of value more than brightest gold.

To humor's whim bend not a slave,
But onward, upward, just and brave,
Strive ever hard to do your best,
And God shall do for you the rest.

—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

GOOD FELLOWSHIP.

IN an old, old story which is obsolete in this generation, there was an anecdote of a little baby princess who was lost in a park, and fell in with a tiny peasant maid, with whom she made friends in sweet, childish fashion, and was found by her distracted governess sitting with her arms around her new acquaintance, pouring confidential disclosures into the plebeian ears.

It is certainly now an infrequent thing to find such simplicity between our own American children of different social ranks. Among little girls especially, there is a spirit of criticism and a mature shrewdness as to the status of their playmates. The miniature women guard themselves from intimacies with the schoolmates they consider their social inferiors, and as, before other more abstract considerations can obtain lodgment in their small minds, clothes are the touchstone of equality, it is not surprising to see babies in years anxious to display their wealth in rich apparel; which increases their vanity and self-consciousness. Why will parents encourage such an unnatural and injurious idea as that there are real barriers and distinctions between the children of the rich and of the poor, when they all meet together at school and Sunday-school and at the public parks, and should enjoy each other's society upon the plane of healthful good fellowship! Don't let us rear our dear, honest-hearted little ones to be patronizing and airy, to think themselves of more account than their poorer acquaintances. Let us encourage them to be frank, simple and kindly to all alike, and to take for their standard that instinctive preference for goodness and beauty of character which is strong and unerring in youthful minds, before it is overlaid by false teaching.—*Florence Hull, in New York Observer.*

A GENUINE CHRISTIAN.

Those who cannot believe that the Chinese can be converted are asked what they think of the following: "A convert named Mr. Hiung had a brother-in-law of considerable influence at Peking, who offered him a lucrative post in which he could earn about \$90 per month, with prospect of increase. When the offer came he brought the letter to Dr. Griffith John, who said to him, 'You are in the wilderness with Christ; the devil is offering you wealth and position, the two things the Chinese covet. What are you going to do about it?' Mr. Hiung replied, 'I have made up my mind to decline the offer. Matthew left the customs to follow Christ. The devil wants me to leave Christ and follow the customs; that will never do.' His wife wanted him to accept on account of the good he could do with the money. He found it more difficult to resist his wife's wishes than the offer. 'I understand,' said he, 'the story of Eden better now.'—*Missionary Herald.*

GOOD BUSINESS MAXIMS.

Carefully examine every detail of your business. Be prompt in everything. Take time to consider, and then decide positively. Dare to go forward. Bear troubles patiently. Be brave in the struggle of life. Maintain your integrity as a sacred thing. Never tell business lies. Make no useless acquaintances. Never appear something more than you are. Pay your debts promptly. Shun strong liquor. Employ your time well. Do not reckon upon chance. Be polite to everybody. Never be discouraged. Then work hard, and you will succeed.—*Notes and Queries.*

MANY HUNDRED "COUGH REMEDIES" have been introduced to the public during the past half century, and have been lost sight of. Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, on the contrary, introduced over sixty years, is to-day in the very front rank of Family Medicines.

USELESS KNOWLEDGE, OR WORSE.

Knowledge in itself has no value. Knowledge is often useless, and again it is often harmful. Yet there are those who pride themselves on the possession of mere knowledge, regardless of its practical utility; and there are many more who spend a considerable portion of their time in searching after knowledge that they have no use for, and that they have no reason to suppose could be of any practical value to anybody. And, besides this, there are many, old and young, who have knowledge that they had better not have. Knowledge must be select knowledge, to be worth having or worth seeking. This is peculiarly true of theological knowledge. The questions that most puzzle religious seekers are concerning matters that are without practical value to the seekers. There is much in the realm of religious thought that must remain unknown to us; and we ought to be content to let it be so. The desire for knowledge merely as an acquisition has been stigmatized as the sin of curiosity.—*Sunday-school Times.*

TAKE TIME FOR THE BIBLE.

As we drift along the swift, relentless current of time toward the end of life; as days and weeks and months and years follow each other in breathless haste, and we reflect now and then for a moment that at any rate for us much of this earthly career has passed irrevocably, what are the interests, thoughts, ay, the books, which really command our attention? What do we read and leave unread? What time do we give to the Bible? No other book, let us be sure of it, can equally avail to prepare us for that which lies before us; for the unknown anxieties and sorrows which are sooner or later the portion of most men and women; for the gradual approach of death; for the period, be it long or short, of waiting and preparation for the throne and face of the eternal judge. Looking back from the world, how shall we desire to have made the most of our best guide to it? How shall we grudge the hours we have wasted on any—be they thoughts or books or teachers—which only belong to things of time?—*Canon Liddon.*

GOD'S WAY IS BEST.

When the florist wants a plant to bloom he puts it into a small vessel. The roots soon fill the pot, and when they can go no further, the energies of the plant are directed toward the blossom. It is forced into bloom. I sometimes think that is the way the Lord has to deal with us. Perhaps there is no person who has experienced the inconveniences and limitations of poverty, that has not at some time had a great longing for wealth. He wishes he had been born rich, and he wonders he was not, for he surely would have put his money to a good use. But perhaps that is just where you were mistaken. God knew that poverty was better for you than unearned wealth. Or he wanted the service you are now giving, which would not have been given had you possessed riches. You would have given yourself over to enjoyment; or been absorbed in managing your estate. So the great gardener has put you into a very small pot, so to speak, and by the very limitations of your lot forced you into usefulness.

A TRUE TEST.

Love to God must show itself by love to our neighbor. If we try to live on one table of the decalogue, or on one part of the Lord's Prayer, we become like a boat with one oar, or a bird with one wing. If the hand be outstretched in supplication toward God, it must also be opened in benefaction toward men. There is great danger of partiality in our choice of God's commandments. Many a man practically says: "This commandment harmonizes with my taste; therefore, I will perform it. That one does not; therefore, I will neglect it. This one is in line with my social relations; that one is not; I will obey the one and neglect the other. This one is essential to salvation; I will perform it. That one is not; therefore, I shall neglect it." Such an attitude as this is unworthy of a true Christian man.

SUGGESTION.

The flowers around the pulpit last Sunday were beautiful and gave the pastor good token of his welcome home. But suppose now you gladden him with some new books for his library. There never was a time when so many books were published which will help a minister to bring forth "things new and old" in his pulpit work. He hungers for some of these volumes, but he lacks the money needed for their purchase. A few dollars invested for his intellectual yearnings will bring a rich return every Sunday.

WAS GOULD INSANE?

FINANCIAL WORRY AND PHYSICAL EXERTION
NOT THE GREATEST DESTROYER
OF HUMAN LIFE.

FOR HUMANITY'S SAKE, AFTER THIRTY-SIX
YEARS OF NERVE-CREEPING SLAVERY,
HE TELLS HOW HE WAS SET FREE.

CALDWELL, N. J., May 10, 1895. (Special.)

Since one of our prominent citizens who has suffered so terribly from tobacco tremens has made known his frightful experience in behalf of humanity, the ladies here are making tobacco-using husbands' lives miserable with their entreaties to at once quit tobacco.

The written statement of S. J. Gould is attracting widespread attention. When interviewed to-night he said: "I commenced using tobacco at thirteen; I am now forty-nine; so, for thirty-six years I chewed, smoked, snuffed and rubbed snuff. In the morning I chewed before I put my pants on, and for a long time I used two ounces of chewing and eight ounces of smoking a day. Sometimes I had a chew in both cheeks and a pipe in my mouth at once. Ten years ago I quit drinking whisky. I tried to stop tobacco time and again, but could not. My nerves craved nicotine and I fed them till my skin turned a tobacco-brown, cold, sticky perspiration oozed from my skin, and trickled down my back at the least exertion or excitement. My nerve vigor and my life was being slowly sapped. I made up my mind that I had to quit tobacco or die. On October 1st I stopped, and for three days I suffered the tortures of the damned. On the third day I got so bad that my partner accused me of being drunk. I said, 'No, I have quit tobacco.' 'For God's sake, man,' he said, offering me his tobacco-box, 'take a chew; you will go wild,' and I was wild. Tobacco was forced into me and I was taken home dazed. I saw double and my memory was beyond control, but I still knew how to chew and smoke, which I did all day until toward night, when my system got tobacco-soaked again. The next morning I looked and felt as though I had been through a long spell of sickness. I gave up in despair, as I thought that I could not cure myself. Now, for suffering humanity, I'll tell what saved my life. Providence evidently answered my good wife's prayers and brought to her attention in our paper an article which read: 'Don't Tobacco Spit and Smoke Your Life Away!'

"What a sermon and warning in these words! Just what I was doing. It told about a guaranteed cure for the tobacco habit, called No-To-Bac. I sent to Druggist Hasler for a box. Without a grain of faith I spit out my tobacco cud, and put into my mouth a little tablet upon which was stamped No-To-Bac. I know it sounds like a lie when I tell you that I took eight tablets the first day, seven the next, five the third day, and all the nerve-creeping feeling, restlessness and mental depression was gone. It was too good to be true. It seemed like a dream. That was a month ago. I used one box. It cost me \$1, and it is worth a thousand. I gained ten pounds in weight and lost all desire for tobacco from the first day. I sleep and eat well, and I have been benefited in more ways than I can tell. No, the cure was no exception in my case. I know of ten people right here in Caldwell who have bought No-To-Bac from Hasler, and they have been cured. Now that I realize what No-To-Bac has done for me and others, I know why it is that the makers of this wonderful remedy, the Sterling Remedy Company of New York and Chicago, say: 'We don't claim to cure every case. That's fraud's talk, a lie; but we do guarantee three boxes to cure the tobacco habit, and in case of failure we are perfectly willing to refund money.' I would not give a public indorsement if I were not certain of its reliability. I know it is backed by men worth a million. No-To-Bac has been a God-send to me, and I firmly believe it will cure any case of tobacco-using if faithfully tried, and there are thousands of tobacco slaves who ought to know how easy it is to get free. There's happiness in No-To-Bac for the prematurely old men, who think as I did that they are old and worn out, when tobacco is the thing that destroys their vitality and manhood."

The public should be warned, however, against the purchase of any of the many imitations on the market, as the success of No-To-Bac has brought forth a host of counterfeiters and imitators. The genuine No-To-Bac is sold under a guarantee to cure, by all druggists, and every tablet has the word No-To-Bac plainly stamped thereon, and you run no physical or financial risk in purchasing the genuine article.



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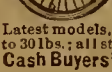
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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.
Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Rennet Tablets, Lactic Ferments.—E. St. J., Jolley, S. Dak. You can obtain rennet tablets, lactic ferments, etc., from Chris Hansen's Laboratory, Little Falls, N. Y.

White Elephant Potatoes.—L. J. W. The White Elephant resembles Beauty of Hebron in color and general appearance, and sometimes goes under the name of "Late Hebron." The plant is larger, more productive, and the crop much later than the Early Hebron. Perhaps the form is not an ideal one.

Buffalo Carpet-beetle.—H. C. W., Mansfield, Mass. At house-cleaning time, spray the floors, base-boards, etc., with benzene from a hand-atomizer. After the carpets have been beaten, spray them also. Benzene is very volatile and highly inflammable, and great care should be taken when using it to prevent exposure to fire.

Cabbage-worms.—M. H. G., Illinois, asks whether there is a sure remedy for the cabbage-worm.

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—There is. Dust the plants with buhach (California insect-powder), or with tobacco dust, or spray with kerosene emulsion or tobacco tea, or even a simple solution of muriate of potash or of dissolved lye, or dash the plants with hot water or soap-suds.

Coal Ashes—Celery Growing.—L. E. L., Mo., writes: "Please inform me whether coal ashes are good to put on garden. —Give directions for raising celery, and name best kinds."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Coal ashes have very little, if any, manurial value, but when sifted may improve the mechanical condition (texture) of the soil. —For main crop of celery, I like Giant Pascal as well as any other. Set plants in July, in rich soil, in rows three to four feet apart, and five inches apart in the rows. Give good cultivation, and blanch with boards.

Cucumber-beetles—Wintering Onions.—G. H., Illinois, writes: "What is the best remedy for the squash or cucumber beetle? —What is the proper way to keep onions through the winter?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Apply tobacco dust, or a mixture of tobacco dust and bone-meal freely around the stems of plants, covering the ground an inch deep. —Store them in some outbuilding on a dry floor, perhaps upon a layer of straw. Let them freeze, then cover a foot or two deep with straw, and thus keep them frozen until spring.

Potato-seed Pieces.—W. D. C., Montana, writes: "What is the best way of planting potatoes for a large crop, to plant them whole or to cut to one, two or more eyes?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—I am a firm believer in heavy seeding. Year after year I have made comparative trials, and every time the crop from whole tubers was by a good deal the largest. The cost of seed, of course, has some bearing on this question. When seed potatoes cost 75 cents or \$1 a bushel, it would be a heavy expense to plant forty bushels per acre, and it might be a losing game. Then again, some varieties, notably the Freeman, are bound to set so many tubers, anyway, that all would remain of very small size were we to plant whole potatoes. Of this variety I prefer small seed-pieces. Of Early Ohio I invariably plant whole seed or halves of large tubers. With ordinary varieties, and under ordinary conditions, it will be found most profitable to plant at least quarters of fair-sized potatoes.

Horse-radish Culture.—H. B., Illinois, writes: "Where can I get cuttings of horse-radish? Can it be raised from the seed? What is the general mode of cultivation? What fertilizers should be used?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Sets of horse-radish are offered on sale by all seedsmen. It cannot be raised from seed. Make the ground pretty rich. It should be a warm loam. Then plant the sets in rows far enough apart for convenient cultivation with a horse cultivator or weeder, and keep under good cultivation until fall, when the crop may be taken up and put on the market. The planting can be done with a small iron bar. The sets should be an inch or two below the surface. Market gardeners often plant horse-radish sets between the rows of early cabbage, and keep all growth cultivated down until the cabbage is off, when the horse-radish is left to grow undisturbed. It is often a very profitable crop, and one well suited to be handled by children for pocket-money. These remarks will also answer the inquiries of H. S. D.

Rain-gage.—L. M. P., Fall City, Wash. Complying with your request, we republish the following: Let the tinsmith make a funnel with a small—say one quarter inch—opening at the bottom, and having a two-inch band soldered around the top, as shown in sketch, to prevent the rain that falls within it splashing out again. The upper edge of this band must measure an exact eight inches in diameter. Take a good large bottle—an ordinary wine-bottle will serve, but in localities where the rainfall is heavy, something larger is preferable. Into this bottle measure three and one half fluid ounces, and mark the bottle at the water level; so on till the bottle is filled, marking the water level of each added measure of three and one half ounces. Each of these graduations shows an eighth of an inch of rainfall. For convenient reference, the graduations may be marked on a strip of paper and gummed outside the bottle.

Beans Profitable.—R. R., New Jersey, writes: "Will it pay to grow marrow-beans for market, or is the market overstocked? Give amount of seed per acre, with the best mode of culture, the distance between the rows, and whether they should be manured in the row."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Queries about the culture of white beans have come so frequently of late, that I can see no other way but to give another full article on the subject in one of the next issues. Beans are a decidedly profitable crop. They give far better returns, usually, than wheat or other grain, and they do not impoverish the soil as much. The rows may be two and one half or three feet apart, whatever is best for convenience in

cultivation. The land should not be very rich in organic matter. We don't want a heavy growth of vine. Mineral manures, such as ashes, phosphates and potash, are best, for the same reason. If the surface is mellow, it can be kept under cultivation in the easiest manner by means of the Breed weeder. The harrowing can be done by machine. The plants, when pulled, should not be overripe, and be stacked up so they can cure well, and will not get wet.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.
Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. Detmers, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

Note.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Garget.—C. W. H., West Newton, Ohio. Please consult any one of the last numbers of FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Knots on the Head.—J. T. K., Hazel Dell, Ill. I am unable to make out what you mean when you say that three of your pigs have "knots" on their heads, between the eyes and ears. Maybe you mean so-called skin horns. If so, leave them alone.

A Lame Horse.—C. H., Waterville, Kansas. The mere statement of yours that your horse fell, was lame immediately, and has been lame since, does not convey any idea as to the seat and the nature of the lameness. Consequently, I cannot comply with your request. Any part of a horse's leg may be injured by a fall.

A Dead Steer.—L. H. S., Farmersville, Mo. The few symptoms you give—inappetence, remaining away from the herd, thirst and bloating—and the statement that the steer was sick four weeks, do not enable me to form an opinion as to the cause of death, or the nature of the disease. You might have ascertained both if you had made a post-mortem examination. Morbid changes, very likely, would have been found in the digestive organs, and maybe in the heart.

A Big Wart.—J. D. B., New Lexington, Pa., writes: "I have a steer with a wart on the lower side of the flank. What can I do to remove it, as it is a great hindrance to the sale of him? The wart weighs about three or four pounds."

ANSWER:—The removal of such a wart will require a surgical operation. Get a veterinarian to perform it. If the wart has a thin neck—you do not say so—it may be removed by an elastic ligature applied as close to the skin as possible.

Worms in Hogs.—R. P. L., Lambert county, Texas. If the large worms you complain of are ascarides, you may succeed in removing them if you mix some shelled castor-beans with the food of your hogs. Two drams is the dose for a good-sized shoat. If, however, the worms you complain of are Echinorhynchus (Echinorhynchus gigas), which are frequent in young pigs, and pass their larva stage in the larva of the Maybug (Meligetha majalis), you will have difficulty, no matter what you may do.

Sick Hogs.—F. W. B., Gratio, Wis. Your description conveys the impression that your two shoats, very likely, suffer from lung-worms (Strongylus paradoxus). If so, nothing can be done. If one should die, examine the lungs, and open the finer bronchial tubes with pointed scissors, and if worms constitute the cause of the trouble, the same will be found. I would advise you to keep your spring pigs, if you have or expect any, away from all the places where the two shoats have been, and where the worm brood may have been deposited. Wet places and stagnant pools of water are the most dangerous.

Prolapsus of the Uterus.—A. G. S., Viola, Mich. If your cow has suffered this year from prolapsus of the uterus immediately after calving, there is, of course, some danger that the same thing may happen next time, but it is not at all certain that it will. If you conclude to breed the cow again, it will be advisable to let her have, during the last three months before calving, all the voluntary exercise she is willing to take and circumstances will permit. If she then, immediately after calving, is closely watched, and if necessary, a truss is put on, or if she is kept under the influence of narcotics, very likely nothing will happen.

Sheep-rot.—S. C. S., Bell, Ohio, writes: "Please inform me what is the best treatment for so-called rot in sheep."

ANSWER:—If you mean by "rot" the disease of sheep caused by the presence of fluke-worms (Distomum hepaticum) in the gall-ducts of the liver of sheep, there is no remedy. Sheep, especially older sheep, affected with that disease will pull through, if the same, at this season of the year, are yet vigorous and in a good condition, while all those that show cachectic symptoms will die. The prevention consists in keeping the sheep away, during the summer, from all low and swampy places, stagnant water-holes, etc., because it is these places where the worm brood is picked up.

Colic.—J. A. H., Rochester, Kan. Your horse, it seems, had a protracted attack of colic. The best prevention consists in removing the cause, where that can be done, and when the cause can be ascertained. If the cause consists in the presence of an aneurism in the anterior mesenteric artery, nothing beyond strict regularity in feeding and exercise can be done. If an attack is on, a physic may be given, injections into the rectum may be made, but whether they will do much good is questionable. To write a treatise on the treatment of all possible cases of colic would lead too far. It is always best in such cases to consult a veterinarian, who can examine the animal, possibly ascertain the cause or causes, and adapt his treatment to the individual case.

Some Sort of Itch.—M. J. C., Sawyer, Kan. You say your cow has "some sort of itch." It may be mange, but all that can be learned from your communication is that she is affected with a rather severe skin disease, against which numerous applications have been made in vain. It contains nothing upon which a differential diagnosis can be based. The trouble, it seems, has been that you have washed and dosed the cow, but have neglected to clean and to disinfect the stable, and have not destroyed the infected bedding. Wash your cow, first with soap and warm water, and then with a five-per-cent solution of creoline (Pearson's), and this done, turn her out to pasture, and don't take her into the stable until the latter has been most thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Repeat the creoline wash three times, once every five or six days.

Dead Calf.—W. H. T., Waywood, Neb. Maybe your calf died of internal hemorrhage, if all blood, as you intimate, was accumulated in the large cavities of the bodies (you say "insides"). Or do you mean the intestines?

Stringhalt—Kidney Complaint.—V. S., West Schuyler, N. Y. Stringhalt—for that is probably what you mean—especially if severe and confirmed, must be considered incurable. —I do not know what you mean by kidney complaint. You ought to have given the symptoms.

Remains Poor in Flesh.—J. L., Carrollton, Ill. No wonder your five-year-old horse remains poor in flesh, if you feed the same, three times a day, twelve good ears of corn. Whenever a horse is fed more food than the same can digest, no improvement is possible. Let your horse have the benefit of a good spring pasture, and I have no doubt that everything will turn out all right. Such a horse, of course, must not be worked to death.

Probably Poisoned.—T. L., Redfield, Kan. Your hogs, which, as you say, had been confined all winter by being kept in a pen, and were then let out into a weed-patch, probably got hold of a sharp narcotic poison. Hogs, as a rule, do not tackle poisonous weeds; at any rate, I never heard of a case that hogs poisoned themselves with jimson-weeds (Datura stramonium), but they may be more careless in regard to other poisonous plants, especially if this instinct has become dulled by long and continuous confinement. If the cause of death has been anything else, the dying would not very likely have ceased as soon as the hogs were taken to their old pens, and removed from that weed-patch. A careful examination of the contents of the stomachs of the dead hogs would have been of considerable interest.

A Diseased Eye.—S. J. L., Endicott, Neb. The nature of the eye disease of your mare does not appear from your description. The white spot you mention may be in the crystalline lens, and be cataract; and as far as your description gives any information, it may be an opaque spot, or even a scar on the cornea. Only one thing seems to be certain, that is, an inflammation, or at least a severe irritation of the conjunctiva. This you may mitigate by applying, three times a day, an eye-water composed of acetate of morphine, two grains, and distilled water, one ounce. It is best applied by means of a so-called dropper, which can be had in any drug-store. One or two drops at a time is enough. It, of course, will only remove the irritation, and will not have any effect upon the morbid changes existing in the interior of the eyeball.

Afraid of Parturient Paralysis.—R. W. D., Glenarm, Ill. If you apprehend danger from parturient paralysis, sometimes called milk-fever, and your cow is an excellent milker and in a very good condition as to flesh, it will be advisable, first, to keep her on light diet until two weeks after calving; second, to see to it that she calves in a clean and dry place; and third, you may inject into the uterus, immediately after she has calved, or passed the afterbirth when she has calved, a quart or more of a milk-warm solution of corrosive sublimate in water, one of the former to 2,000 of the latter, or about seven grains of the sublimate to a quart of water. If, however, when speaking of milk-fever, you mean garget, the prevention as well as the remedy would consist in frequent milking—frequent enough to prevent any considerable accumulation of milk in the udder.

Vertigo.—A. M. S., Riceville, Tenn., writes: "I have a horse, four years old this spring, that when at work becomes dizzy and falls down after a little staggering. The attack can be noticed, and he will stagger thirty or forty feet before falling; lays two or three minutes, and gets up and goes on all right. He had two attacks in one afternoon at the plow. I know little of his history, though I think he has had such attacks before. I can see nothing wrong with him. He is thin in flesh, and I think never was fat; in fact, I hear that he has been half starved all his days. I have fed him well, but he has had lampas all winter. His coat is sleek, hide loose, and as far as I can judge, is in good condition."

ANSWER:—Vertigo must be considered as an incurable affection. You can probably prevent your horse from falling down if you throw something over his head, or blindfold the same, as soon as you see an attack coming on.

Probably Attends to the Milking Herself.—E. H., Randolph, N. Y., writes: "What is the trouble with my cow? She is about five years old. She had a calf the middle of March, and after three or four weeks she commenced going by for three or four milkings, that she would give from a pint to a quart, and then would give a big mess of milk one milking. She kept doing that way all the time. I bought her a year ago, and she did the same way last summer. She has a good appetite, is fed good hay, bran and meal mixed, and turnips once a day, eats well, but when turned loose to go outdoors, will go to the wall of the barn and try to eat the mortar."

ANSWER:—May be that your cow has developed the bad habit of occasionally attending to the milking herself; that is, sucks her own teats. If not, she probably allows another cow to suck her. Watch her, and if she herself is the guilty one, put a leather halter with a good, broad nose-band full of sharp-pointed nails on her head; and if you find that another cow is the culprit, put the prickly halter on that one's head. Further explanation will not be necessary.

Diseased Hogs.—A. S., Tunnelton, W. Va., writes: "The hogs in this locality have been affected with a disease unknown by any farmer. I have two Poland China pigs, about eight months old, that were taken about the first of last February. Symptoms first noticed: refused to get up, and to eat; hind legs swollen, and the muscles rigid and contracted, and walking on their pastern-joints. Then they appear to get better for a short time. When one appears to get better, the other one gets worse. I have examined them carefully at times, and have noticed a redness and a congestion of the anus. Their appetite is capricious. Some days they have a good appetite, while other days they refuse to eat. Their bowels are regular. They seem to urinate freely, and have no tenderness about the loins. They have been fed on good, healthy food, consisting of corn, corn-meal and sweet milk—no sour swills of any kind. Their lameness is confined to their hind legs, and they seem to walk with great difficulty when they get up. My neighbors' hogs have been affected in much the same way, while some of them have died. I have not examined any after death, but should I have an opportunity, I will examine, and report the same."

ANSWER:—If any of your hogs should die, by all means make a post-mortem examination, and, if possible, have portions of some of the muscles of the hind quarters examined by a microscopist familiar with histology and pathological anatomy, because such an examination will probably reveal the nature of the morbid process, and perhaps the cause. It is barely possible that something is wrong with the food; that is, the corn and corn-meal. If the latter should contain a great deal of smut, change the food.



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Springfield, Ohio.

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Please accept thanks for People's Atlas, which came to hand in due season and in good order. The wonder to me is how you can give so much valuable reading matter for so little money. Success to you, and long may you wave. Respectfully yours,
WM. BRIGGS.

Our Miscellany.

WOMEN.

There are women who are comely,
There are women who are homely,
But be careful how the latter thing you say.
There are women who are healthy,
There are women who are wealthy,
There are women who will always have their way.

There are women who are truthful,
There are women who are youthful;
Was there ever any woman who was old?
There are women who are sainted,
There are women who are painted,
There are women who are worth their weight in gold.

There are women who are slender,
There are women who are tender,
There are women very large and fat and red;
There are women who are married,
There are women who have tarried,
There are women who are talkless—but they're dead.

—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

HOPE and fear, peace and strife,
Make up the troubled web of life.

NEVER trouble trouble till trouble troubles you.

TRUTH is a mighty weapon, when wielded by the weakest arm.

SOME sort of charity will swallow the egg and give away the shell.

Nor less than 60,000 acres of land are devoted to celery growing in the United States.

PROSPERITY is no just scale. Adversity is the only true balance to weigh friends.

ABOUT 100,000 volcanic mountains have been seen on the moon through the telescope.

A TEASPOONFUL of brandy added to a glassful of milk makes it very easy of digestion.

THE postage-stamp oldest in use and still used is the five pence of New South Wales.

MEXICO has an area of 751,000 square miles, or nearly one fourth that of the United States.

FROM the walks of humble life have risen those who are the lights and landmarks of mankind.

MOZAMBIQUE has 310,000 square miles of area, and is as large as Germany and Great Britain combined.

DAHOMY is the smallest state in Africa. It has 4,000 square miles, almost the exact size of Connecticut.

GREAT BRITAIN owns in Africa an area of 2,570,000 square miles, almost equal to that of the United States.

LEARNING is wealth to the poor, an honor to the rich, an aid to the young, and a support and comfort to the aged.

FRENCH AFRICA comprises a territory of nearly three million square miles, about the size of the United States.

A WORD of kindness is seldom spoken in vain. It is a seed which, even when dropped by chance, springs up a flower.

ALL ancient music was in the minor key, without harmony or counterpoint, and entirely vocal and rythmical, like our recitative.

THE Sahara is crossed by mountains sufficiently high to be at times snow-covered, while in other parts it is much below the sea-level.

THE inventor of the envelop was the late Elias Gunmaer, of Shawano, Wis. He hit upon the idea while a government employee in Washington.

TOBACCO has the power of relaxing the muscular system to a marked degree, and advantage has been taken of this property, both in medicine and surgery.

A GEORGIA raccoon, supposed to be tame and being allowed the privilege of a farmer's house, recently killed five cats and severely wounded three fine dogs.

NEVER be cast down by trifles. If a spider breaks his web twenty times, twenty times will he mend it. Make up your mind to do a thing and you will do it.

It is announced that the Turkish minister of public works has decided to reconstruct the aqueduct which supplied Jerusalem with water in the time of King Solomon.

It appears that note-books are quite common in the Japanese army among both soldiers and coolies. They keep regular diaries, and take copious notes of everything they see.

THE *Brewers' Journal* states that English syndicates have \$91,000,000 invested in American breweries, the dividend on which, at 9 per cent, last year was \$8,190,000, and was paid in gold.

ONCE a year, with great ceremony and unusual pomp, the Emperor of China plows a furrow, in order to dignify agriculture in the eyes of his people. The practice of plowing has begun in preparation for this year's ceremonial. Of course, no one can plow publicly with any show unless he has practiced previously in private.

WHERE GOLD GROWS ON TREES.

For information how to get rich. Send for pamphlet to the San Miguel Co., Box 871, Cincinnati, O.

DEAN HOLE, the eminent British divine, says that the clocks and chairs in this country asserted to have been brought over in the Mayflower, would load to the water's edge the largest fleet of vessels ever known.

SOUTH AMERICA has the greatest unbroken extent of level surface of any country in the world. The Llanos of the Orinoco are so flat that the motion of the rivers can scarcely be detected over an area of 200,000 square miles.

THE oldest known specimen of the vine tree in the world is at Hildersheim, Hanover. It was planted more than 1,000 years ago by Charlemagne in commemoration of a visit made by him to the ambassador of the Caliph Haroun al Raschid.

THE amount of extra land that would be available for crops were all the hedges in Great Britain trimmed properly would be equivalent to 600,000 acres. And if it were down South, how many blackberries it would grow!—*Augusta Chronicle*.

THE Indian Yogis, who understand how to produce a peculiar condition of suspended animation at will, can be buried for weeks without food or air, and on revival it is said that they weigh the same number of pounds as when they entered the state.

ALMOST all the flags of every description used in the United States navy are made at the Brooklyn navy-yard, and 50,000 yards of bunting are used every year. It takes more than 200 ensigns and signals to fit out the flag lockers of a modern man-of-war.

THE Bank of Germany, like most other German public buildings, has a military guard to protect it. In a very strongly fortified military fortress at Spandau is kept the great war treasure of the imperial government, part of the French indemnity, amounting to several million pounds.

A QUEER will was lately filed in Duval county, Florida. John M. O'Brien was the testator, and he wrote his will with a pencil on a part of the wall beside his bed. It was a board five feet long by one foot wide. The instrument reads thus: "Mrs. Arnold, God bless her! shall have all I leave."

POWDERED sugar and powdered borax in equal quantities, mixed and scattered or blown about with a bellows in all the nooks and crannies of kitchen and pantry, will rid the place of water-bugs, generally misnamed cockroaches. The latter are bigger than June-beetles, and rarely seen in private houses.

THE original Snow apple-tree, now seventy years old, is a production of Oakland county, Michigan. It still bears fruits. The tree was planted by Apollis Dewey, on his farm between Birmingham and Pontiac, and the experiment of grafting brought forth a new apple, which, for lack of any other name, was styled the "Snow apple."

SMALL incandescent lamps, using secondary batteries weighing about half a pound, are used for night service in the German army. It has been suggested that they be used with balloons for signaling, and the bicycle corps uses them in reconnoitering. The small accumulators have also been supplied to powder-magazines and artillery depots.

ONE of the most conspicuous landmarks, or rather, snowmarks, in the whole of the arctic regions is the red snowbanks discovered near Cape York, Greenland, by Captain John Ross in the year 1818. For miles and miles the hills are covered with snow that is as red as though it had been saturated with blood. Lieutenant Greeley, who visited that region while on his famous arctic expedition, microscopically examined these blood-stained cliffs and reports the color due to a minute organism, which he calls *Protococcus nivalis*.

QUICK TIME.

Berlin claims the record for quickness in turning out the fire brigade. At a test, the company tested was out of quarters, fully equipped for the fire, twenty-two seconds after the alarm was turned in. Amsterdam has hitherto claimed to hold the record on twenty-six seconds.

MARRIAGE IN HUNGARY.

Down to the present century, a part of the marriage ceremony in Hungary consisted in the groom giving the bride a kick to remind her of her subjection.

The attention of our readers is invited to the advertisement of B. H. Kirk & Co., 172 Washington St., Chicago, in this issue. This firm makes a big reduction in the price of their 15 jeweled Elgin and American watches to start a rapid movement for turning a large stock into cash. Note their advertisement, and write them for additional particulars, but be sure and mention this paper when you write.

CUT PRICE BUGGY SALE
A Full Leather Top Buggy for \$42. Leather Quarter Top, \$37. Imitation Leather Top, \$33. Eud spring or side bar. Open side spring Road Wagon Buggy, \$21, warranted 3 years. Order quick, only one of each at these prices in a township to show our superior workmanship. Our best finished Buggy with Ball Bearing Axles only \$45, worth \$150. Single wheels, \$22. Harness at cost. **U. S. BUGGY & CART CO., E. I. Cincinnati, O.**
We recommend the U. S. Buggy & Cart Co. to our readers as a reliable factory, and their guarantee as good. Write for their free catalogue.

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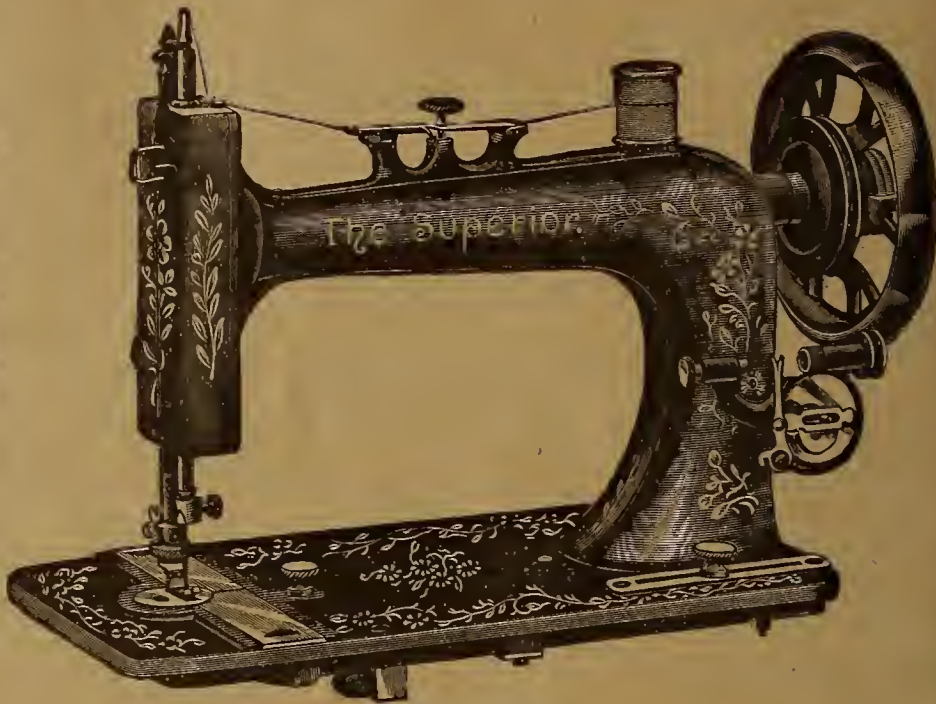
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The sexes can never be truly equal,
No matter what's written and said and done,
While the stupidest man has fourteen pockets
And the cleverest woman has none.

—Life.

TIT FOR TAT.

SOMETIMES school board officers are very officious and arrogant in manner. An elderly but fresh-looking woman opened her door to one lately, and answered the following questions:

"Have you any children?"
"Yes."
"How many?"
"Three."
"Are they all at school?"
"No."
"Are any of them?"
"No."
"We must see to that," said the man, pompously, taking out a note-book. "Now, your name and address?"
Given.
"Your children's names?"
Also given.
"Now, their ages?"
"Well, let me think," answered the woman, with a gleam of fun in her eyes, "Willie, the youngest, is thirty, and was married last week."
"Thunder and lightning!" roared the man, "why didn't you tell me that at first?"
"Because you didn't ask me," she answered, quietly.—*Tit-Bits.*

SOLD AGAIN!

Indignant customer—"Say, look at this sheet of fly-paper you sold me the other day!"
Grocer—"I'm looking at it. I see that it is covered with flies. That's what you got it for, wasn't it?"
"You charged me four cents for it, didn't you?"
"Yes."
"And I got two of 'em?"
"Very likely."
"The other one is exactly like this one."
"Well, what are you kicking about?"
"You see this is covered all over, don't you?"
"I see it is."
"There isn't room on it for another blamed fly?"
"I suppose not."

"Well, when I tried to pull 'em off so I could set it again, they wouldn't come off. The other one's the same way. The game, I reckon, is to make a fellow keep on buying 'em. I'm not going to do it, and I think it's a damned swindle, and you can take your fly-paper sack again, and I'll never buy another cent's worth of goods at this store, so help me Nebuchadnezzar!"—*Chicago Tribune.*

NONE BETTER.

Kentuckians are always proud of their state in whatever department of human labor they may hold place. Not long ago a widow went to see a marble-cutter to get a tombstone for her late husband. She selected a plain one from his stock, and gave him an inscription to put on it.
"Can't do that, ma'am," he said politely, when he had read it.
"Why not?" she asked in surprise. "I'm paying for it."
"Yes'm; but I can't put that on. I stretch my conscience a good many times in what I put on a tombstone, but I ain't going to tell a plain lie when I know it."

The widow was greatly shocked, and insisted on his explaining what he meant.
"Well, ma'am," he said, "you've got here, 'Gone to a better land,' and that ain't so, ma'am. There ain't any better land than Kentucky."—*Detroit Free Press.*

SILENT CHILDREN.

A precocious and talkative boy in Tioga, who always places himself in evidence, no matter in whose company, received a present from his father which bore the legend, "Little children should be seen and not heard." The boy was not particularly pleased with the gift, but finally consented to have it hung on the wall in his room. Yesterday his father had occasion to visit the room, and the motto was missing. The youngster was carefully interrogated, and with an air of conscious well-doing he answered: "I gave it to the deaf and dumb children in the asylum at Mount Airy."—*Philadelphia Record.*

HER MISSION.

"Professor," said Miss Skylight, "I want you to suggest a course in life for me. I have thought of journalism."
"What are your natural inclinations?"
"Oh, my soul yearns, and throbs, and pulsates with an ambition to give to the world a life work that shall be marvelous in its scope and weirdly entrancing in the vastness of its structural beauty."
"Woman, you are born to be a milliner."—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

NOT IN HIS POWER.

Janitor of skyflats (gruffly)—"What are you doing in the vestibule at this time of night? Are you one of the tenants?"
Tom De Witt—"No, I'm not! So you'd better be civil or I'll break your head."—*Life.*

TITBITS.

To the remark, "Well, it's only a step from the sublime to the ridiculous," the thoughtful man replied: "Ah, if it were only a step back again!"

"I wish I were an ostrich," said Hicks, as he tried to eat one of his wife's biscuits, but couldn't.

"I wish you were," returned Mrs. Hicks. "I'd get a few feathers for my hat."

The New York girl—"Lord Dumley, did you hear the joke about the museum-keeper who had two skulls of St. Paul; one when he was a boy and the other when he was a man?"
The Englishman—"No; what is it?"

He was a countryman, and he walked along a busy thoroughfare and read a sign over the door of a manufacturing establishment: "Cast-Iron Sinks." It made him mad. He said that any fool ought to know that.—*Christian Work.*

She had sent off a telegram, and was waiting for an answer. Suddenly the peculiar halting click of the receiving-machine sounded in the office, and she said to her companion: "That's from George, I know; I can tell his stuffer."—*Philadelphia Times.*

"Now, you young scamp," said Blinks, senior, as he led his youngster out into the woodshed, and prepared to give him a dressing, "I'll teach you what is what."

"No, pa," replied the incorrigible, "you teach me which is switch."

"I conclude that's a fly," said the young trout.

"You are quite right, my dear," answered its mother; "but you mustn't jump at conclusions. It is a fly, but I doubt if God made it."—*Smith, Gray & Co's Illustrated Monthly.*

Editor—"What qualifications have you for this position? What do you know?"

Applicant—"I know what I ought to find out, and that is all I ought to know, for when I know what is necessary to be known, I know all that it is necessary to know."

Editor (bewildered)—"Leave your address."

As a regiment was on the march to Gettysburg, some of the soldiers stepped out of the ranks and "confiscated" a couple of geese, and at the suggestion of an ingenious fellow and a natural "bummer," one of the drummers unheaded his instrument and put the captured birds in the drum. Shortly afterward the colonel came along, and noticing the boy shirked his usual drum-whacks, rode up to him and said:

"Why don't you beat that drum?"
"Colonel," said the startled musician, "I want to speak to you."

The colonel drew still closer to him, and bending down his head, said, "Well, what have you to say?"

The drummer whispered, "Colonel, I've got a couple of geese in here."

The colonel straightened up and gravely said, "Well, if you're sick and can't play, you needn't," and then rode on.

It is needless to add that the colonel had roast goose that night.—*War Relic.*

200,000 MEN CURED.

Since 1891 over 200,000 men, young, old and middle-aged have used the simple, harmless, recipe which cured me of lost vigor and weakness from errors and excesses. I send this recipe free to any man needing it. You can prepare it yourself or I will furnish it, ready for use cheaper than a druggist can. No catch penny, but a sure, simple self-cure. Recipe and full directions free by addressing MR. THOMAS BARNES, Box 113, Marshall, Mich.

HIS REVENGE.

Ada—"So Miss Lange said she would be a sister to you?"

Lawson—"Yes."

Ada—"What did you say to that?"

Lawson—"I told her we would compromise and call it aunt, as I was too young to be her brother."—*Vogue.*

TWO OF A KIND.

"If I had your money, I know what I'd be."
"What would you be?"
"Just as mean as you are."—*Kate Field's Washington.*

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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I have just bought an Immense Lot of Books at a sacrifice and I propose to give them all away in order to introduce my celebrated magazine. You can have 10 Books Free, as follows: Manual of Etiquette, Volume of Useful Information, Book of Unique Stories, Book of War Stories, Famous Comic Book, Secrets for Women Only, Beautiful Female Slaves of to-day, (an exciting book), the greatest Magic Book, The Yank's Famous Puzzle Book and Book of Popular Songs. All postpaid in 1 Bundle free if you send 10 cents to pay for a 3-months' trial subscription to my magazine. Send at once and you will be happy. POPULAR MONTHLY, 7 Water Street, Boston, Mass.

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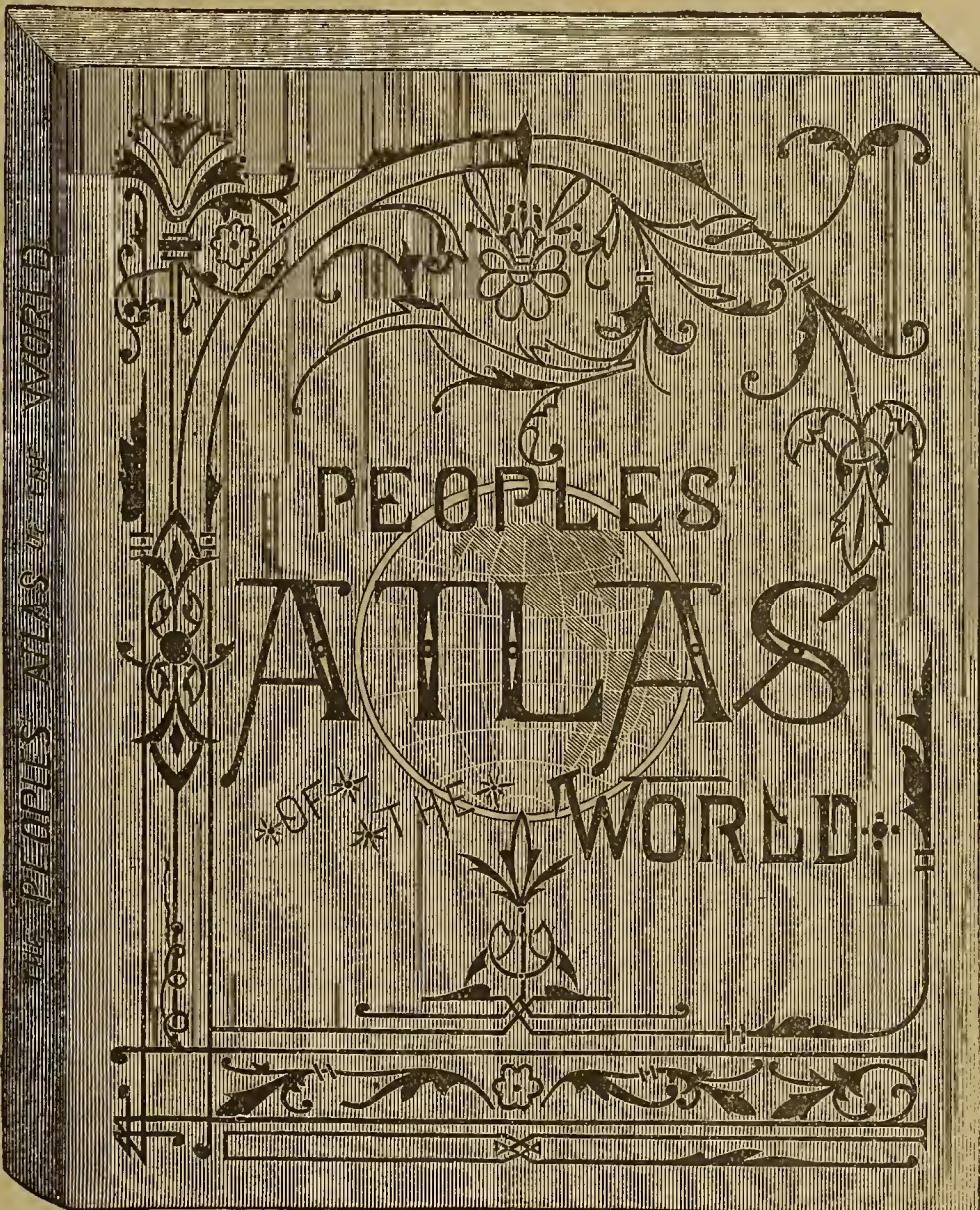
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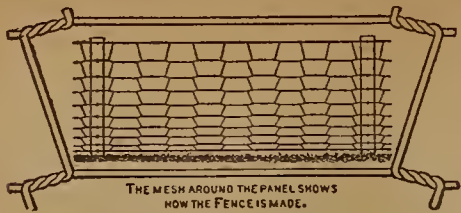
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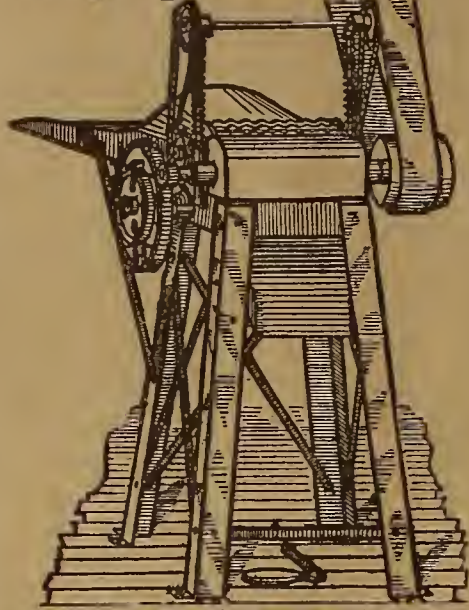
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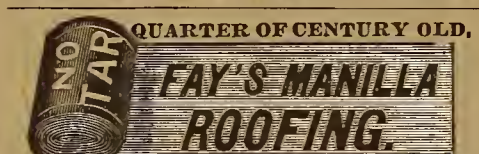
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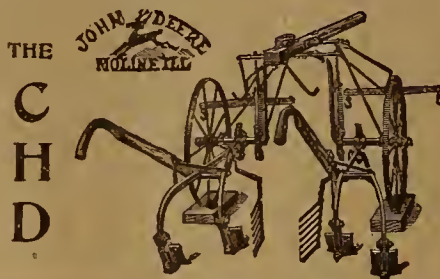
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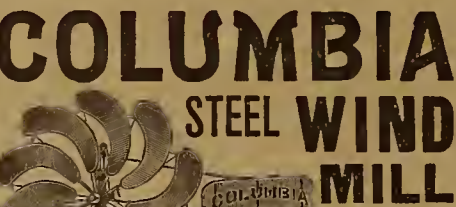


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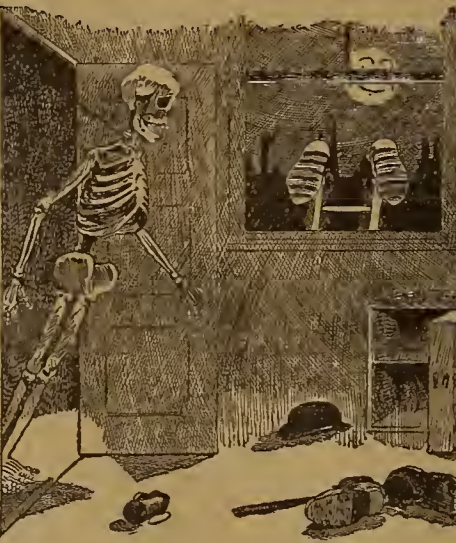
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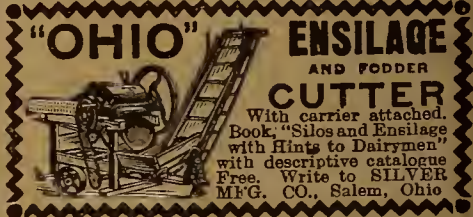
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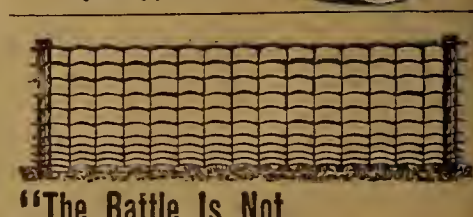
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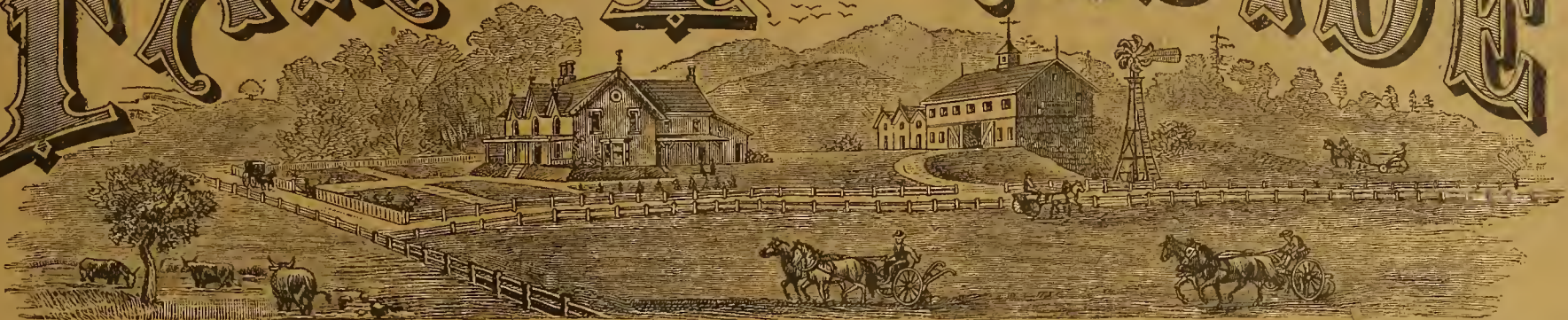
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VOL. XVIII. NO. 17.

JUNE 1, 1895.

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25,000
PRESENTS
Given Away
During
the Month
of June.

See particulars on page 16,
Also on pages 18 and 19.



STRANGE, isn't it, how such a little thing as our financial condition affects our temper and disposition. We really have been more disagreeable during the past two years than at any other period during our lives, probably. At least this applies to those of us who are younger; and it has all been due to what the papers call the "financial stringency of the times."

Now that the times are better, the people we meet have a more genial countenance, and somehow, they shake hands a little more warmly, and they inquire about the different members of the family as if they really were interested and wanted to know. We go about our work, too, whistling, and sometimes singing snatches of old songs which we have not sung during these two years.

Some of us haven't stopped to think just why we do this, but the fact is, times are growing better, and we know it. As Riley says, there is a sort of "feel" in the air which makes us all aware of the fact that we are going to get better prices for what we raise, and that we are going to get better wages for our work; that we are going to be able to buy some things which we need very much and which we haven't bought because we did not know when this stringency was going to let up. Some of us will probably pay our subscription two or three years in advance to the different papers which we take, or subscribe for half a dozen new ones.

A number of large factories have increased wages ten per cent, and voluntarily, too. Railroads have increased their earnings until they are within ten to fifteen per cent of what they were in 1892; and 1892 was the best year the United States ever had, from a financial standpoint.

The government has not yet gotten over the stringency. The administration don't seem to be able to make expenses; but that is the fault of the administration, and not of the country.

Wheat reached an advance of thirty cents on the bushel in Kansas City a few days ago. Now, we hope that sort of thing will continue until we can get a dollar a bushel for all the wheat the country can produce.

THE editor of the *National Medical Review* says this in praise of the dude: "He certainly has the merit of cleanliness; his collar is not melted with the heat of many summers; neither are his shoes covered with the sands of time. His linen is not stained with the drippings of a tobacco-press; neither are his teeth covered with the green algae of antiquity. His face is not the sign of a poor barber; neither are his fingers plowed with the deep fissures of the bichlorid. The dude is surgically clean. Tubercle bacilli slip from his polished footwear, and the Keks-Loeffler cannot find a resting-place beneath his nails."

THE report of the director of the mint for 1894 contains a table giving the monetary systems and approximate stocks of money in the principal countries of the

MONETARY SYSTEMS	POPULATION	STOCK OF GOLD	STOCK OF SILVER			UNCOVERED PAPER
			Full legal tender	Limited tender	Total	
Gold countries	161,400,000	\$1,610,900,000	\$ 186,000,000	\$325,900,000	\$ 511,900,000	\$ 446,200,000
Gold and silver countries.....	266,400,000	1,854,500,000	1,346,800,000	246,000,000	1,592,800,000	1,001,700,000
Silver countries.....	835,200,000	500,500,000	1,903,000,000	48,000,000	1,951,000,000	1,123,000,000
	\$1,263,000,000	\$3,965,900,000	\$3,435,800,000	\$619,900,000	\$4,055,700,000	\$2,570,900,000

world. From it has been compiled the accompanying table showing the distribution of money among the groups of gold, gold and silver, and silver standard countries.

The free silver countries contain two thirds the population of the world, and hold nearly one half the stock of silver. The total stocks of gold and silver (at coinage ratio) are nearly equal. In silver countries the purchasing power of silver coin as compared with gold varies with the commercial ratio; at the present time, an ounce of gold will exchange for as much of anything as thirty-one or thirty-two ounces of silver. In gold, and gold and silver, countries the silver coin of each is held at par with gold by the credit of the government; silver coin at the ratio of 15½ to 1, or 16 to 1, exchanges for as much as gold. The United States silver dollar is one half bullion value and one half credit, and passes current at a parity with gold; the Mexican silver dollar passes at its bullion value, and exchanges for half as much as the United States silver dollar.

As a basis for many arguments on the money question, it is assumed that when Germany in 1871, the United States in 1873 and France in 1874, suspended the unlimited coinage of silver, it was demonetized—withdrawn from use as money—and one half the metallic money base of the world

was taken away, with the effect of reducing the nominal value of all property one half. This assumption is absolutely false. All arguments based on it lead to false conclusions. The world is bimetallic. Silver is free to flow to the free silver coinage countries. In the silver countries silver is "primary money"—"money of ultimate redemption"—beyond question. The coined silver of the gold, and gold and silver, countries is to-day not only a medium of exchange, but legal-tender money, and "money of ultimate redemption" to the extent of its bullion value.

UNITED STATES CONSUL-GENERAL JERNIGAN, at Shanghai, says that while China's foreign commerce is increasing largely, her imports of domestic goods from America fell from 66 million yards in 1892 to 27 million yards in 1893; and in the case of England from 497 million yards in 1892 to 365 million yards in 1893. Mr. Jernigan makes an interesting point on the competition between gold-paid labor and silver-paid labor in the following extracts from his report.

"In 1873 the mills of the Orient and Occident were competing on relatively equal terms and receiving equal returns. Now, in 1894, each mill employs the same amount of labor as it did in 1873, but the owner of

the mill in the United States pays for labor in gold at the old [higher] rates, while the owner in Japan pays for labor in silver at the old rate also. Not only does this principle of the difference in the value of the currency in which labor is paid in the East and the West apply to wages, but it applies to whatever is essential to the success of agriculture and manufacturing enterprise.

"Silver is used by one half the world and gold by the other half, and while wages in one half are paid in a depreciated currency, and in the other half by an appreciated currency, rivalry between the respective products of the labor of each is encouraged, with the advantage in the outset to the products of the laborer paid in depreciated currency, and especially when the latter can supply his daily wants with such a currency, and which he is willing to receive, and remains contented with."

In the May 15th number was shown the effects of a depreciated currency on the earnings of labor. Beyond all question the experience of the United States during the war period, and of every other country in the world, teaches that the purchasing power of wages—the real earnings of labor—is reduced by a depreciating currency. The money question at bottom is a labor question. Upon the earnings of labor depends the welfare of a vast majority of mankind.

Attention was called also to the fact that the decline in the price of silver had given the cotton planters and wheat growers of India a great advantage over American farmers. In India a depreciating currency, wages remaining the same nominally, has been constantly reducing the labor cost of producing wheat and cotton, the two principal staple exports of our own country. And the wheat grown in other countries on a silver, or depreciated paper, basis competes severely with the American product.

It is assumed that this country can meet this unequal competition in wheat, cotton and manufactured goods by going down to the silver basis—debasement of its currency one half—and thereby reducing indirectly the labor cost of production one half. Is this assumption true or false?

The extension of railways in Russia and Siberia has recently opened up vast areas of wheat land. A few months ago a congress of Russian millers was held at St. Petersburg under the auspices of the Russian government. At this meeting plans were perfected for the formation of a millers' association and for fostering the export trade of flour from Russia to England, Asia, and the countries bordering on the Black and Mediterranean seas. The director of the department of railways offered reductions and immunities to the association. The minister of finance is considering plans for the extension of credits on flour by the government bank. In short, Russia is now actively doing all that can be done to get the best markets for her enlarging surplus of wheat, rye and other cereals. For forty years Russia has been using an *inconvertible and depreciated paper currency*.

At present the liveliest competitor of the United States in the world's wheat market is Argentina. Her wheat product increased from 16,000,000 bushels in 1889 to 100,000,000 bushels in 1894. From 1885 to 1894 the price declined from \$1.50 to thirty-eight cents a bushel. Cheap land and American harvesting machinery had something to do with it, but the main stimulus to production was cheap labor. The South American planter can now lay wheat down at the seaboard at forty cents a bushel in gold and make a big profit. Argentina uses a *depreciated paper currency worth now about thirty-six cents on the dollar*.

Therefore, should it attempt to make an equalizing adjustment by the proposed means of lowering its money standard, the United States could not stop at the silver basis of India, China and Mexico. The depreciated currencies of Russia and Argentina must be taken into consideration. It could not stop at a fifty-cent silver dollar. To beat the competition of Argentina's thirty-six cent paper dollar, it should not stop above a thirty or a *twenty-five cent dollar in irredeemable paper*.

Should it be attempted with the least prospect of accomplishment, months before a law could possibly be placed on the statute-books of the United States Mexicanizing its monetary system, and Mexicanizing its labor, the country would be thrown into a condition of industrial, commercial and financial disaster beside which the panic of 1893 would seem glorious prosperity.

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FARM AND FIRESIDE.

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The following general statistics of agriculture are taken from "The Building of a Nation." For brief review notice of this, one of the most valuable books of statistical information ever published, see page 16 of this issue.

"In 1880 the number of farms was, in round numbers, 4,000,000. In 1890 it was 4,565,000, having increased during the decade at the rate of fourteen per cent. This, which is also much less than the rate of increase of population, indicates that the accession to our numbers during the past decade have been, in the main, additions to the ranks of other avocations.

"The value of farms in 1880, including all improvements, was, in round numbers, \$10,200,000,000. In 1890 this item had grown to \$13,276,000,000, showing a rate of increase of thirty per cent, an increase greater than that of the number of farms, thus showing a decided advance in the average value of farms.

"Farming tools and machinery had a value in 1880 of a trifle over \$400,000,000. The same item had a value in 1890 of \$494,000,000, or nearly twenty-four per cent greater.

"Hence, the capital invested in agriculture in 1890 was not less than \$13,770,000,000; and this capital produced a return in that year of \$2,460,000,000, or less than eighteen per cent upon the capital.

"Since 1850, when agricultural statistics were obtained for the first time, the average size of farms has been diminishing, having decreased from 203 acres in 1850 to 134 in 1880. During the last decade the average size has slightly increased, being 137 acres in 1890.

"In 1880 the extent of cultivated or "improved" land, as the census designated it, was 285,000,000 acres. Ten years later this had increased to 358,000,000 acres, or about 560,000 square miles. In other words, in 1890 a trifle more than one fifth of the total area of the country, excluding Alaska, was under cultivation.

"The following table (A) and diagram (B) summarizes the statistics upon these subjects for the past forty years."

*It is proper to include in the capital invested in agriculture the value of farm animals—horses, mules, cattle, sheep and swine. According to the report of the secretary of agriculture for 1893, the total values of farm animals in the census years were:

1870.....	\$1,822,000,000
1880.....	1,577,000,000
1890.....	2,419,000,000

Including these estimates makes the value of farms, implements and machinery and live stock as follows:

1870.....	\$ 9,522,000,000
1880.....	12,181,000,000
1890.....	16,189,000,000

This table is illustrated by diagram C.

The increase in value by periods, illustrated by diagram D, was:

From 1870 to 1880, nearly 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ billion dollars.....	28 per cent
From 1880 to 1890, over 4 billion dollars.....	32 " "
From 1870 to 1890, over 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ billion dollars.....	70 " "

A. VALUE, NUMBER AND SIZE OF FARMS, AND VALUE OF PRODUCTS, BY DECADES.

	1850.	1860.	1870.	1880.	1890.
Value of farms, implements and machinery (dollars).....	3,424,000,000	6,891,000,000	7,700,000,000	10,604,000,000	13,770,000,000
Number of farms.....	1,449,073	2,044,077	2,659,985	4,008,907	4,564,641
Average size of farms (acres).....	203	199	153	134	137
Cultivated land (acres).....	113,000,000	163,000,000	189,000,000	285,000,000	358,000,000
Value of products (dollars).....				2,213,000,000	2,460,000,000

The total amount of mortgages on farms, illustrated by diagram E, is a careful estimate made from the special report of the eleventh census on mortgages in the United States. In 1890 the total amount of mortgage indebtedness on farms was less than one and one quarter billions, or about seven and one half per cent of the sixteen billion dollars value of farms, equipment and live stock. Also, compare the total amount of farm mortgages, one and one fourth billion dollars, with four billion dollars, the increase in farm values from 1880 to 1890.

The simple and comprehensive array of the statistics of agriculture presented in the foregoing summaries, tables and diagrams are amply sufficient to confound utterly the pessimistic, anarchistic demagogues who are mendaciously prating and ranting about the ruin of the American farmer.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

Treating Seeds Bulletin No. 108 of the North Carolina experiment station for Germination. treats on seed testing, its uses and methods.

"Alexander Von Humboldt was the first to discuss and explain the beneficial action of chlorin upon the germination of seeds. He soaked seeds of peas, cress and other plants in a very dilute aqueous solution of chlorin acid. In this solution the seeds germinated in from six to seven hours, whereas in control tests with water the same varieties of seeds did not germinate inside of from thirty-six to forty-eight hours.

"Chlorin-water of about one tenth saturated strength has been used by gardeners to hasten or assist the germination of tender seeds in hotbeds and greenhouses. The chlorinated water is simply sprinkled on the soil after the seeds have been

acid in water seems to favor the quick germination of seeds which have been soaked in it for not over two hours. A longer soaking, say twenty-four hours, or a stronger solution, seems to destroy the life of the embryo.

"Commercial sulphuric acid, diluted with sixteen times its volume of water, has a favorable effect upon most seeds soaked therein for ten to twelve hours. Clover and rape seeds are among those most susceptible to injury by this acid. Phosphoric acid, diluted with fifty times its volume of water, has a favorable action upon germinating seed. Tannic acid, diluted with 1,000 volumes of water, is favorable. Hemic acid, diluted with 150 volumes of water, is favorable.

"Nitrate of soda, diluted to one eighth, acts favorably upon the germinating seed. Chlorid of soda in an eleven-per-cent solution seems favorable to some species of seeds, but is unfavorable to the cereals and others.

"Sulphate of lime (gypsum) acts favorably on seeds. Carbonate of lime seems in all cases to act favorably."

Most other acids and other corrosive chemicals have usually an unfavorable influence upon germinating seeds, and must be used with great caution, if at all.

From the foregoing it will appear that nitrate of soda, used in the same way and at the same rate as already mentioned for muriate of potash, can be expected to exert a favorable influence from the very time that rains or soil water dissolve it and carry it down to the seed or plant.

Treating Seed Potatoes. A Pennsylvania reader sends me copy of a formula which some

time ago could be found in many of our agricultural papers, and of which I may have spoken before. It purports to come from a "French scientist," who soaks his cut seed for twenty-four hours in a solution of six pounds of saltpeter and six pounds of sulphate of ammonia in twenty-five gallons of water. The potatoes are allowed to drain a whole day, in order that the eye-buds may swell before planting. From cut seed treated in this manner and planted in the usual way, he claims to have obtained a yield of forty-two tons of potatoes, or 1,400 bushels, to the acre. Of course, this is mostly rank nonsense.

The idea of making the seed gorge itself with plant-food, and thus enable it to bring an extraordinary yield, is not worthy of serious consideration. On the other hand, we know that the condition and state of preservation of the seed tubers has a marked influence upon the yield. Whether the treatment here described has a tendency to produce stronger sprouts, and thus possibly increase the yield slightly, or not, I am not prepared to say.

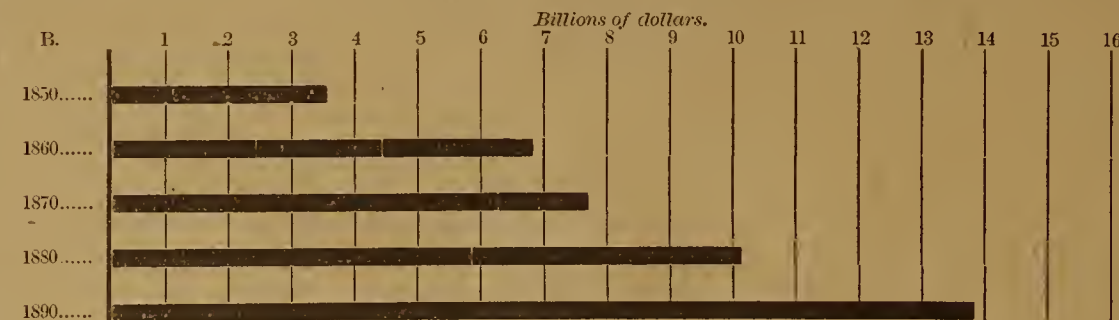
Soaking Seed On the whole, I do not think in Water. that it will

pay the gardener, under average conditions, to give to his seeds special treatment before planting. It is not necessary to fuss with chemicals for the sake of hurrying up germination, except as we apply them, directly to the soil as manures, in nitrate of soda, muriate of potash, sulphate of ammonia, phosphates, etc.

The mere soaking in clear water of seeds like turnip, radish, beets, carrots, parsnip, etc., does hurry up germination, and for these seeds has often been recommended. But it again requires fussing, and special treatment, such as partial drying or mixing with dry soil or sand to absorb the surplus moisture (outside), and thus fit the seeds for convenient sowing by hand or machine, and for this reason I have never looked with much favor upon the practice. Sowing seeds dry is good enough for me, and good enough for others. Give us pure, live seeds, such as we expect reputable seedsmen will furnish us, and we will be able to get them to germinate promptly enough, by sowing in freshly stirred and therefore moist ground, and taking pains to press this moist soil firmly to the seed.

T. GREINER.

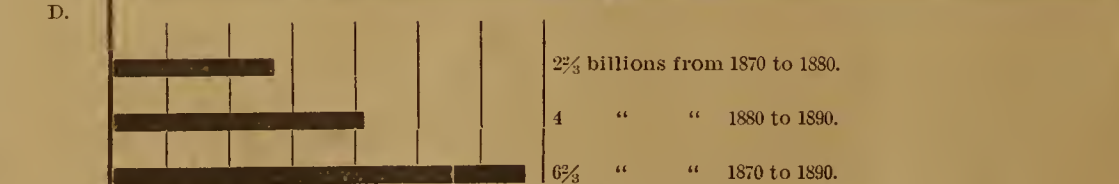
VALUE OF FARMS, IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY.



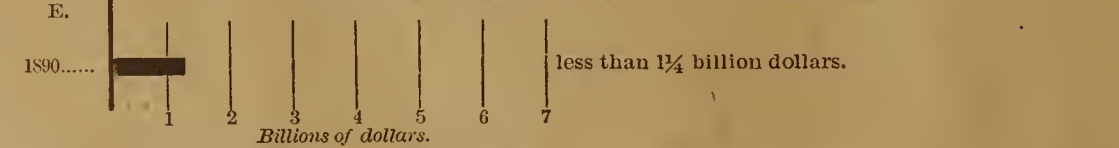
VALUE INCLUDING FARM ANIMALS.



INCREASE IN VALUE.



TOTAL MORTGAGE ON FARMS IN THE UNITED STATES.



In speaking of the action of chemicals upon the germination of seeds, Prof. Gerald McCarthy says:

"The generally detrimental action of corrosive chemicals upon sprouted seeds is well known. In practice, chemicals may be divided into four classes: First, those which by their corrosive action aid the sprouting embryo to break the protective covering of the seed; second, those which, being poisonous to burrowing grubs or worms, protect the embryo from such depredators; third, those which furnish easily assimilable nourishment for the young plantlet; fourth, those which destroy the spores of molds already on the seeds.

dews, or the soil water, to dissolve this salt, and bring it to the little seeds or roots.

Other Chemicals. Among other chemicals which exert a beneficial action are sulphur, sulphuric acid, nitrate of soda, sulphate of lime, carbonate of lime, tannic acid, humic acid, hydrochloric acid, etc. The following details are from the mentioned bulletin:

"Sulphur in small quantities has a favorable influence upon germinating seeds. Its favorable action is probably due to its destroying the spores of molds upon the seed or in contact with it in the ground or seed-pan.

"A ten-per-cent solution of hydrochloric

Our Farm.

PEPPERMINT RAISING.

PEPPERMINT raising has been reduced to a science, although different people often use different methods. The man who wants to go into the peppermint business must first purchase the roots. The roots cost \$40. per acre. They are planted in continuous rows which are from twenty-eight to thirty-six inches apart. During the first year the mint is carefully cultivated. As a general thing, it is cultivated eight or ten times and hoed three times during the season. The first year's crop is cut with a scythe, and if not devoured by grasshoppers or baked by the sun, ought to yield enough mint to the acre to make twenty pounds of oil. If weather and grasshoppers join forces, however, the peppermint farmer may not get over five pounds of oil to the acre for his trouble. There is nothing that can be put on a farm that looks better growing than carefully cultivated peppermint during the first year. The mint, varying in height, is dark green, yet not so dark but that it presents a bright contrast to the black loam from which it grows.

The second year the mint is allowed to run without cultivation, and at the end of the season is cut with a mower. The mint does not grow to such a height and the foliage is not as heavy as during the first year. June-grass mixes with it a great deal, and the average yield for the second year is at its best only about ten pounds of oil to the acre. The third year's mint is allowed to run the same as the second, the peppermint farmer getting from five to seven pounds of oil to the acre.

After the third year a great many people put some other crop in for the next year, claiming that when they plant mint again they will get better returns if the land has had a year's rest. The following year new roots are put in and another three years' crop obtained from the land.

After the mint is cut it is allowed merely to wilt and is not cured. If cured, the mint becomes brittle, and much is lost by the leaves, in which the oil is contained, being broken off in transit. Wilting it reduces both the bulk and the weight. From the field it is then carried to be distilled.

A good "still" with the proper distilling apparatus, lumber and labor of building, costs about \$300. It is generally built near the center of the mint-field, and as far from farm buildings as convenient, to lessen the danger of fire. The floor on which the mint is handled is about 15x30 feet, and is built 6 feet from the ground. This part of the building is roofed, but not sided. Adjoining this is the shed in which the boiler and distilling apparatus are contained. Sunk to a level with the floor and near the boiler are two large tanks, each 5½ feet deep, 4½ feet in diameter at the bottom and 5 feet in diameter at the top. A lid made of two-inch hard-wood planks, and which fits so nicely that when the "still" is in operation no steam can escape, is attached to each tank. A crane facilitates the handling of the mint.

The mint, after it has wilted, is brought to the "still" and piled on the floor. One of the tanks is filled with it, the mint being stamped down after the manner of the ancient wine-press. As soon as the quantity it will hold has been placed in the tank the lid is lowered, its weight being sufficient to keep the steam from escaping. The steam is then turned on, being conveyed from the boiler in a three-inch pipe, which enters the tank at the bottom. The oil is extracted from the mint and mixes with the steam, and is carried to the condenser, consisting of two eight-inch tin pipes about fifteen feet in length. A trough is suspended over the condenser, and is kept constantly filled with cold water. A smaller trough below, supplied with water from the one above, is perforated, and through the holes, which are about four inches apart, the cold water drips constantly on the pipes through which the steam is passing. The oil and water then pass through the "worm," nearly one hundred feet of two and three inch pipe, on which cold water is constantly dripping from a third trough suspended above it, and supplied from the first trough. By this process oil and water are nearly cool when they reach the receiver.

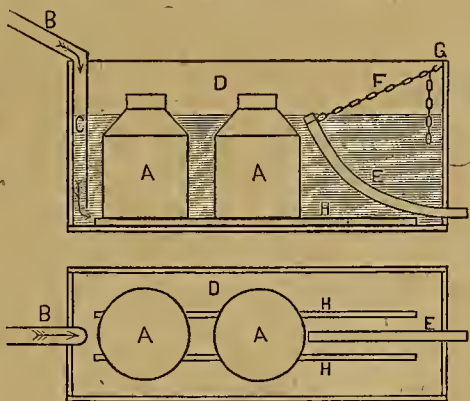
The most interesting part of the work is now seen. The receiver reminds one of a watering-pot more than anything else. As soon as the oil and water reach the re-

ceiver, they pass through a strainer, which removes any foreign substances that may have been forced through the pipes. The oil can be plainly seen floating on the water as it comes from the pipes. Following an established law of nature, the water sinks and the oil remains on top, and is dipped off as fast as it accumulates. The water, entering the inlet of the spout near the bottom of the receiver, is forced by the weight of the oil through the spout, and having done its work, is seen no more. It does not take long for all the oil to be extracted from a tankful of mint, but in the meantime the other tank has been filled. By a simple device the steam is transferred from one tank to the other, and the new mint is treated in the same way. Fitting nicely into each tank is an iron rim with cross-bars. When the mint is put in, these are at the bottom. After the oil is extracted, the crane is swung around and a rope running through a pulley is attached to the two iron rods on each side of the tank inside, connected with the rim, a windlass attached to the crane raises the rim and the tightly packed mint on it out of the tank. The mint as it emerges resembles an enormous loaf of Boston brown bread. By means of the crane it is swung clear of the tank and loaded on a wagon. It is spread in the field, allowed to dry, and makes an excellent feed for stock.

As fast as the oil is dipped from the receiver it is placed in twenty-pound cans. It is then stored away until the peppermint buyer makes his annual visit.

The oil when pure is almost colorless. It has an agreeable odor, scarcely noticeable to those accustomed to it. It is very penetrating, and the cans in which it is shipped are made in the best possible manner to prevent leakage. It has a powerful aromatic taste. Weeds often injure the flavor of the oil by becoming mixed with the mint in the field.

There are a great many people who raise mint who do not own a "still," and who have their distilling done by their neighbors. The price paid for the work is generally twenty cents per pound.



MILK-COOLER.

Peppermint raising was introduced in Michigan in 1855, and in 1858 there were about 2,100 acres under cultivation and 100 distilleries, yielding 15,000 pounds of oil annually.

It seems to be the general opinion of experienced mint growers that peppermint should be planted as early as possible in the spring. Most of the planting is done in April in Michigan.

It is said that those who work at a "still" are always healthy and never troubled with headache or nervousness. Peppermint-oil rubbed on the head will cure sunstroke, so John Chinaman says.

Distilling is nearly all done during August and September.

DOUGLAS MALLOCK.

DISTURBING TRIFLES.

It is the irritating trifles that a man finds hard to bear. Were they large things we would put a stop to them, or else summon up the fortitude to bear them. They would be worthy of consideration. But the little things—how disturbing they may be! They come in troops, and they come with persistence.

First, there is the chronic borrower. "From him that would borrow of thee, turn not thou away," is the injunction that comes to your mind as he approaches. Now, one likes to do favors to those who accept them as favors. One likes to lend a helping hand in this world. But this man assumes too much. He cannot see why he should not have any implement you have the day he wants it. If you are away, he will take it without the asking. He never returns anything when he agrees to do so, and usually he breaks or strains some part of the machine. He is a nuisance, and yet who likes to refuse to loan to a neighbor in need? If he was more courteous, if he was

prompt in returning, if he was careful, if he had any consciousness of a favor done him—if he had any one of these, it would be less annoying.

How much of my time belongs to an agent? He comes to the field when I am busy. I treat him courteously, but do not wish to buy. Yes, but everybody says that, and experience has taught him that it does not pay to heed refusals to buy. He sails into his long story. Shall I order him off, or bear it all? Why, bear it, of course; who wants to order a man away, even if he does lack in discernment and is hardly complimentary to your intelligence?

The nurseryman comes every spring. I know nothing of him or his nursery. He bores and bores. Then he wants to give his personal guarantee that the stock will be true to name. "His personal guarantee!" That is the straw that does the work. We tell him we cannot spare any more time, and turn on our heel. Yet we are irritated because he took us for a fool. A trifle? Yes, but annoying.

A new building must be roofed. We want to know just what it will cost. "Six dollars a square for best slate," says one slater. That seems definite. We give the contract. We measure the roof when done, and expect to pay just \$90. The bill calls for \$94.50. What is the matter? Why, a cap is put over the ridge-pole, and it is measured up as slate by drawing the line over the roof, and then the cap is also charged for extra by the foot. "It is our rule," says the slater in justification. It is an "extra," never mentioned in the contract. What should we do? Why, feel irritated, then pay the extra because others do. It is the deceit, the gouge, that hurts more than the \$4.50 we paid to save trouble.

"Are you going to order any seed for yourself this spring?"

"Yes," I answered.

"Order five bushels for me, will you?"

Why, of course, I am glad to be of service, especially when it put me out so very little. I inclose enough money to pay for both lots, and the seed comes. The neighbor gets his, finds the quality not quite up to expectations, and freely says so. He forgets about the pay until you jog his memory along in the summer, and then only half relishes the reminder. He is a pretty good neighbor, but that is his way. Irritating? Of course it is.

But should these trifles disturb us? No more than the patent medicine paper that will come in our mail, or the lottery or counterfeit money circular that looks like a letter. These trifles are the alloy, trifling in quantity when compared with the things that give pleasure. But they come when not looked for, and annoy us in spite of our resolves.

DAVID.

MILK-COOLER.

My milk-cooler is a box large enough to hold all my milk and cream cans and butter-crocks. It has a spout down one corner within one inch of the bottom, to allow the water to flow in, thus putting the cold water in the bottom of the tank. The warm water rises to the surface and passes off down the hose, which is hooked up as high as you wish the water in the vat around the cans. When there is less milk in the cans, lower the hose by use of the wire chain. The warm water passes off at the top of the vat and runs out on our garden, and is used to irrigate it. It does not matter how much or how little water is pumped into the vat at once, as it holds itself with the top of the hose all the time. There is no danger of overflowing or drowning the cans. Of course, there should be enough cold water pumped into the vat to keep the milk cool. I find that when my milk is at the same temperature as the water coming from the well, it is about right to raise all of the cream. I used a piece of two-inch hose, and bored a two-inch hole in the box and inserted the hose. Then in order to make the hose and box water-tight, I bored a hole through a stick, which I drove inside of the hose where it passes through the tank. I had good sweet milk and good buttermilk and fine, hard butter all summer. I shipped my butter to Omaha, and received for it at the depot four or five cents per pound more than we could get at the store at home. I also grew in my garden after July 8, 1894 (at which time I was hailed out and lost my

entire crop), one peck tomatoes, one bushel of turnips, eleven cabbages, four bushels of radishes, one half peck of beans, lots of lettuce and a few onions, by irrigation from our milk-tank.

GEO. HALLOCK.

Nebraska.

PICKED POINTS.

The Cultivator, of Boston, March 16th, in its New York market report, states that the "hothouse lamb sells for \$12 a carcass; hind quarters cost \$4 and fore quarters \$3.25." Of course, this is for the best quality; but why not have all that are grown the "best?" It is because some growers either do not know how, or will not put their knowledge in practice. It is as easy to produce the best as an inferior article. The numerous hothouse lameries in my vicinity prove the truth of the assertion. Twelve dollars is a large sum for a lamb under eight weeks of age that can be grown cheaper than in the ordinary way at six months of age, and at a time when farmers have little to do; but only a few can be made to see it.

This is the season of the year when we may look for numerous "hides on the fence." Many horses, cattle and sheep die from starvation, by accident or from the effects of a hard winter. There is a little compensation in the thought that horse and cattle hides have recently advanced in price very materially. Sheepskins are low because wool is. They should be tanned for use as rugs in the house (for which purpose they can be dyed), or for cushions on mower and binder seats, or on lumber-wagons. To tan a sheepskin (and that of your worthless dog, too), dissolve half a pound each of salt and alum in a little warm water, then pour it in a tub with cold water enough to cover the skin, and let soak a day, then hang on a pole to drain, stretching it once in awhile meantime. When water ceases dripping, lay it down and rub into the flesh side the same amount of salt and alum, dry, fold together, flesh side in, let it lay flat three days, turning each day, then scrape with a blunt knife. When nearly dry, rub with any soft stone and the hands until it becomes as white and pliable as buckskin.

The white poud-lily (*Nymphae odorata*) is one of the most beautiful and fragrant flowers that grows. It is pure white and as large around as a tea-saucer. It grows in shallow, sluggish water, or where there is no perceptible movement of it. The roots are long and fleshy and are embedded in the mud. The large, fleshy leaves lie on the water and the flowers extend above. They are readily propagated in a flower garden, or on the lawn by sinking a half barrel or cask in the earth up to the rim. Mix fine, well-rotted stable manure and rich, black mud from some pond or stream, half and half, filling the receptacle two thirds full. Pour in rain-water, a little more than enough to cover, then add an inch of sand; let stand three days, then press the roots down into the manure and mud and fill the cask full of water. This lily blooms in June, and is a great ornament in any grounds. The water is replenished as it evaporates. A better lily-tank could be made of brick and mortar.

GALEN WILSON.

Is Your Blood Pure

If it is, you will be strong, vigorous, full of life and ambition; you will have a good appetite and good digestion; strong nerves, sweet sleep.

But how few can say that their blood is pure! How many people are suffering daily from the consequences of impure blood, scrofula, salt rheum, rheumatism, catarrh, nervousness, sleeplessness.

Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies, vitalizes and enriches the blood. Therefore, it is the medicine for you.

It will give you pure, rich, red blood and strong nerves.

It will overcome that tired feeling, create an appetite, give refreshing sleep and make you strong. Get only Hood's because

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Is the Only
True Blood Purifier

Prominently in the public eye to-day.

Hood's Pills the after-dinner pill and family cathartic. 25c.

Our Farm.

NOTES FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

BEANS FOR PROFIT.—Leaving the onion out of our consideration, there is no special crop about the culture of which I am receiving half as many inquiries as about field-beans. This particular inquisitiveness of readers of this paper shows that many of them, discouraged about the low prices of wheat and perhaps other staples, are looking for other crops which promise greater remuneration, and that "white beans" are among the most promising in this respect. As there are no special books or pamphlets printed which treat about the culture of beans for market—so far as I am aware—it is but natural, and surely justifiable, that my readers should ply me with questions on so interesting a topic; and for this reason I have consented to give a full article on beans, even if this is not the first time that I speak on the subject in this place. Let me say, however, that I wish some expert bean grower would write up a little treatise, so we could tell our friends where they can find "all that is worth knowing about the culture of the bean."

PROFITABLE TYPES OF BEANS.—Almost all the different types of the bean can be grown with profit. Snap-beans often pay well, both when grown under glass and in open ground. When planted early, on a warm piece of ground, so as to be ready for market a little in advance of the rush, they usually sell well and at paying prices in all our markets. Lima beans, too, where soil and season are favorable to their development, are exceedingly profitable. The green, shelled beans almost invariably find ready takers and fairly remunerative prices. Now that we have the bush forms of this class of beans, we can grow them without much trouble where we have no poles, and the seasons are rather short.

By the way, Prof. L. H. Bailey has just issued a bulletin (No. 87, Cornell University experiment station, Ithaca, N. Y.) on the "Dwarf Lima Beans." People especially interested in the subject should try to secure a copy. I quote the following:

"I am convinced that these beans, as a class, are very valuable. Their great merit is earliness. They are from two weeks to a month earlier than the tall varieties from which they came. Their productiveness has not been reduced in proportion to the reduction in size of the plants, so that I believe that it is possible, in the North, to secure greater total yield per acre from the dwarf than from the pole varieties, seeing that the plants require less room; they are also much cheaper to grow—they require no poles. * * * The earliest varieties of these dwarfs are those which are derived from the Sieva type, as Henderson's and Jackson's."

FIELD-BEANS.—No doubt, field-beans can be made to pay much better than ordinary grain crops, but while easily grown, they are not as readily harvested. You must know how to store, thresh and clean them, or you will run the risk of having them badly spotted. But it will pay any farmer so situated that he can use the bean as a money crop, to learn the business, by practice, from the rudiments up. Any land which, when properly manured, would raise a fair crop of corn, may be considered fit for growing beans; neither will excessive manure applications be called for. I usually prefer mineral manures, if I use any (and I don't always for this crop). I would use ashes if I had them. Sometimes I apply 100 pounds of muriate of potash and as much dissolved bone. This is applied broadcast before planting. A good four-year rotation is as follows: Clover, corn, beans, wheat; then back to clover. I like to have the ground plowed and fitted up with harrow and roller quite early in spring. This will give a chance for the weeds to sprout, and to be killed by repeated harrowing.

I seldom plant field-beans before June, or much later than the middle of that month. What I aim to do is to get the crop taken care of before the fall rains set in. No iron-clad rules can be given for planting. There are various ways and devices which may be used. If I plant in a small way only, I simply open up furrows, say two inches deep, with some snitable marker or even with the hoe, scatter the beans along in the furrow so as to get one bean to every two to four inches of row, and cover with the feet. On a larger scale,

one can use a hand-planter, a one-horse planter, or a two-horse planter. Tools of this kind are now kept on sale by most seedsmen. A good two-horse planter is advertised by F. W. Miller, Caledonia, N. Y., who also has a good bean-harvester. A quick way of planting large areas is with a grain-drill, taking three rows at once, the rows being about twenty-eight inches apart.

It need only be mentioned that cultivation should be thorough. Perhaps the Breed weeder—going with the rows, of course—would do good work for a starter. At least I use it, but always plant beans, peas, etc., so thickly that I would just as soon as not lose a plant or two now and then. Any one-horse cultivator with narrow teeth will do, if you only use it often enough. Cultivate close up to the rows, so there will be little need of hand hoeing. Don't stop cultivation on account of bloom or pod-setting. Keep right on until the crop is well advanced. Slight hilling at the last cultivation will do no harm, and may do good in covering up weeds just starting in the rows.

As to varieties, you have your choice between the Marrow, the Medium, the Pea, and the Red and White Kidney beans. In some localities, one or the other of these is grown almost to the exclusion of all others. The Kidney beans, I think, like richer soil than the others do. The Red Kidney is quite prolific, not as easily spotted in bad weather as white beans are, and is often particularly profitable. One must consult his neighbors, his markets, and surely, good judgment, when selecting the variety for planting. Be sure, also, that the seed is good, and was gathered from a crop that was free from rust. The amount of seed required for an acre depends somewhat on the size of the beans planted. The Marrows will need about a bushel of seed per acre, the Peas and Mediums less, and the Kidneys more.

The most important part of the whole business is the proper harvesting, storing and threshing, and this had best be learned by experience on a small scale. When all the pods have turned yellow, but before they all are "dead" ripe, the plants should be pulled. This, on a small scale, can be done by hand. Large growers use a two-horse bean-puller, which takes two rows at a time and makes quick work of this part of the job. Just as soon as the plants are dry enough, they may be stored in a dry loft, or they may be put in little stalks around a pole stuck in the ground, and well capped with marsh hay. If exposed during a prolonged spell of wet weather, the beans would spot badly, and therefore the crop needs prompt attention. Where one has but an acre or two, the threshing can be done with the flail or the horses' hoofs on the barn floor. I have seen regular bean-threshing machines on the exhibition grounds, but never at work. The professional thrasher-men who run an ordinary grain-threshing machine should know enough to fix the coulters for threshing beans, so that only a small percentage will be split. Picking over by hand, in order to sort out the imperfect and spotted beans, will be needed in most cases. This can be done during the winter, when labor is cheap. But be sure that the beans are perfectly dry before you store them in bulk.

T. GREINER.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

SALT AROUND FRUIT-TREES.

IN FARM AND FIRESIDE of January 1st last, I referred to the beneficial effects of salt on some inland soils. One of our correspondents says he knows of cases where peach-trees have been killed by applying it to the land near them.

The answer in question explained that salt is seldom of much value as a fertilizer, but should be applied to the land rather than be thrown away. If used in large quantity, it would be very injurious in almost any situation, but if applied to land at rare intervals and in quantities of not over ten bushels per acre, as recommended, and evenly distributed, no harm will come from it on inland soils. It is seldom, if

ever, needed on land near the sea-coast. I have myself, or have acquaintances who at different times have destroyed their crops with nitrate of soda, acid phosphate, potash, bone-dust, taukage and various other commercial fertilizers, but this only shows that in applying the concentrated fertilizers more skill and care is required than in using stable manure. Similar care is needed in using salt on the land.

CASTOR-OIL IN THE ORCHARD.

The following note is from a subscriber, M. R. Hessler, of the apple section of Arkansas, in regard to protecting trees from rabbits. I have never tried the remedy recommended, but if it will work well it might sometimes be used to advantage:

"As orchard men are troubled with rabbits peeling apple-trees, I will say that one application in the fall of castor-oil will protect them from rabbits, and leave the bark in fine condition in spring. I have used it with good success. Take a little on a cloth and rub it as far up as a rabbit gets. One application does all winter and spring."

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Basket-worm.—D. G., Bethel, Ohio. The sacks received are about two inches long,



BASKET-WORM.

a, full-grown worm removed from bag; b, male chrysalis; c, female, wingless and footless; d, male moth; e, bag containing female and soft, yellow eggs; f, full-grown worm in bag; g, young worms in bags.—Riley's Reports.

and are the result of the work of the bag, or basket, worm. Those that have no hole in the lower end contain a large number of eggs, that will hatch into little worms pretty soon, and will feed on the leaves. A curious thing about this insect is that it always has a basket or bag covering that it carries about, and that it increases in size as it grows. This insect moves about during the summer, but in autumn becomes fixed to the twigs of trees, where it undergoes its changes. The males emerge in a winged form, and die after fertilizing the females. The female forms her eggs in the bag and dies. The eggs winter over in the bags; hence, the insect may be destroyed by picking off the bags in winter. If they have emerged from the bags before you can get at them, poisoning the foliage with Paris green and water is the remedy. This insect is quite abundant in the South, but is seldom injurious at the North. It feeds on the foliage of almost every kind of tree, including evergreens.

Apple-maggot.—H. C. W., Mansfield, Mass. The insect referred to is the apple-maggot (*Trypeta pomonella*). It is more liable to attack summer and autumn apples than those that ripen later. The remedy is to pick up and feed the apples to stock or make them into cider.

Not Bearing.—J. S. B., Wells Bridge, N. Y. I do not know why your *Eleagnus longipes* fail to set fruit, but as it is rather fickle in habit, I do not much wonder at it. They are sometimes, and in some situations, very fruitful; then again, cases occur like yours. I am inclined to think that your plants would do better in poorer soil.

Current-bushes.—G. A. P., Prattsburgh, N. Y. It is best to grow currants in bush form, allowing several stems to grow from the roots. If only one stem is left, it may be attacked by the currant-borer at any time, and then the whole plant will die within a year or two. If trained with several stems, those that are infested with insects may be cut out and new ones allowed to take their place. The bush form does not give a pretty, trim look to the currant as the tree form, but is far more practical.

Diseased Bark.—J. C. B., Yorktown, Va., writes: "Several of my young apple-trees, set out three years ago, have diseased bark near the ground. Some portions of the bark turn dark and become dry; then it cracks and the dry bark peels and scales off, exposing the bare wood. The trees thus affected, while they have the same care and attention as the others, are much behind in growth."

REPLY:—The disease you refer to is a hard one to combat. Probably your best course is to pare off all the diseased bark near the ground and cover with grafting-wax, or bark the tree up with earth. If badly diseased, I would remove and plant anew. Some varieties are more liable to disease than others.

Strawberry Varieties.—W. O. H., Free-water, Oregon. I do not know of any "Early Mouarch" strawberry, but am acquainted with "Mouarch," or "Monarch of the West." This is a berry of large size, globular in form, but often cockscombed, flesh rather soft, plant vigorous on good soils, but only moderately productive. The Sharpless is uniformly very large, often broadly wedge-form; light, glossy red; flesh firm, but juicy and rich; plants vigorous and productive.

Apple Varieties for Market.—R. S., Goldendale, Wash. For home use and trial in a small way, it is a good plan to get a few of the newer kinds of apples; but when planting an orchard for money, they should not be planted at all. For this purpose, stick to the kinds that you know are good, such as Baldwin, Yellow Belleflower, Golden Russet and Newtown Pippin. Among the newer apples worthy of trial are Anisette, one of the Russians and a rival of the Jonathan, Sutton Beauty, Longfield and Red Bietigheimer.

Locust Grove.—J. G., Sardinia, Ohio. The best way for you to start a locust grove is by buying one-year-old seedlings, which can be obtained of nurserymen at about \$3 per thousand. It is rather a poor plan to try to raise a locust grove by sowing the seed in places where the trees are to remain. Trees from sprouts are not so good as seedlings, but are all right when once established. If you intend to sow the seed, it should be put in some tight water-vessel and have scalding water poured over it, which should be allowed to remain until cool. Treated in this way, it is much surer to start than if sown without being treated.

Grafting Wild Grapes—Grafting the

Wild Cherry.—W. S. R., Darroville, Ohio. Both the fox and the frost wild grapes may be grafted, with reasonable certainty, with our cultivated kinds. The work is most successful when done very early, say as soon as a few inches of soil are thawed out in the spring, and the union placed below the surface soil. The earth should then be drawn up so as to cover all but one bud of the scion. The wood is generally quite cross-grained below ground, and the cleft—in case of cleft-grafting—is generally made with a fine saw. The method of procedure, otherwise than stated, is the same as for grafting apples. In France, many of the successful vineyards are grafted on our wild frost grapes (*V. riparia*), and they would be failures were it not for this stock, which resists the action of the phylloxera that destroys the roots of the French wine grape.—The cultivated cherry will not graft on the wild black cherry or choke-cherry, but may be grafted or budded on the small wild bird-cherry or the sand-cherry. You will probably remember that the wild black cherry and choke-cherry have their fruit in long bunches (racemes), while the bird-cherry and sand-cherry have their fruit in umbel-like clusters, as in the case of our cultivated cherries. This peculiarity divides the cherry family into two sections, and the different sections will not readily graft together.



BANKRUPTCY

—of the physical being is the result of drawing incessantly upon the reserve capital of nerve force. The wear, tear and strain of modern life are concentrated upon the nervous system. The young men of our day become sufferers from nervous debility or exhaustion, nervous prostration or weakness. This may be the result of too much mental worry and excitement, or the result of bad practices and excesses, or pernicious habits, contracted in youth, through ignorance. They feel irritable, weak and nervous with such distressing symptoms as backache, dizziness, shooting pains in head or chest, sometimes indigestion. The middle-aged men, as well, suffer from exhaustion, loss of manly power, low spirits, impaired memory, and many derangements of mind and body. The ill-used brain is morbidly wide awake when the overworked business man attempts to find rest in bed.

The physicians and specialists of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute devote their best energies to reclaiming and restoring such unfortunate to health and happiness. They have written a book of 168 pages, treating of these maladies and setting forth a rational means of home-treatment for their cure. It is sent *securely sealed, in plain envelope*, on receipt of 10 cents for postage.

Address **WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**, No. 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Our Farm.

OPPORTUNITIES OF CITY AND COUNTRY.

THOUSANDS of young men have been lured to the cities by the idea that wealth and happiness were there so much more easily obtained. In some instances the hopes have been realized, while in a vast majority of instances it is found wealth does not come for the asking, and happiness is not very deep where mingled daily with poverty, hunger and cold. True it is that wages are somewhat higher for the same class of work, but the fact that one includes boarding and lodging, and sometimes washing and mending, while the other includes nothing, is overlooked. Another fact which should be considered by the married man is that his house rent will be from two to five times what it would be in the country, with equal accommodations. Furthermore, he must buy his eggs and poultry, purchase milk and butter, purchase his ham and sausage, his potatoes and turnips, his cabbage and greens—his entire food supply, in many instances—while if located in the country, he may have his own flock of poultry, and not only enjoy eggs and fowls in abundance, but have a surplus to exchange for coffee, sugar, rice and tea. He may also keep a cow, and thus know the luxury of real milk, in comparison with that which has been hauled several miles, past pumps and through rivers. He has rich cream also, and choice, gilt-edge butter. Here again he may have a surplus for sale sufficient to clothe the babies, or buy the wife a new dress occasionally, and probably both. He also has a garden, and not only may he have all the vegetables in abundance, but also small fruits in their season.

Young man, pause a moment to consider the difference between sitting down to a table spread with a profusion of dishes, all fresh, sweet and wholesome, all the productions of your own and your wife's labors, save, perhaps, the coffee, sugar, rice, salt and pepper—this in the country—while if in the city, every article on the table has been purchased, not with eggs and butter, or berries, but with hard-earned cash, which no sooner finds its way into your pocket till it must take its leave and enter the money-drawer of the grocer or butcher.

It is true he may not have work for every day of the three hundred and thirteen at good wages, but if he is industrious, there are few communities in which he need be idle a dozen days in the year. Then, too, he has no dread of lockouts, scaling down of wages, etc., through which thousands of men are idle for months at a time, during which the children cry for bread, and thin clothing refuses to keep out the cold. Did you ever hear of a farm laborer's family starving because there was no work to be done?

It is true church and Sabbath-school are not so convenient, but they will likely be appreciated all the more when attendance is favored. The children will probably have farther to walk to attend school, but they are in much less danger of their lives along the quiet country roads than across the thronging streets, and the temptations to wrong-doing are not nearly so great. And the fresh air, bright sunshine and free exercise are more conducive to health than the dust and smoke and noise of the city.

There is room in the country for many able and willing young men, who can earn good livings and enjoy comparative independence. The wages of farm labor have scarcely felt the decline in other fields. A good, reliable hand can command as good wages, to-day, with wheat, wool, sheep, horses, etc., lower than in the remembrance of the majority, as he could do twenty years ago, when prices of farm produce were double what they now are. Is it not time the tide were ceasing to flow cityward? Are the opportunities not equally as good in the country?

JOHN L. SHAWVER.

SAVE MONEY AND HEALTH by buying Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, if you have a Cough, a Cold, or any Lung or Throat trouble. It is the oldest and surest remedy known.

When I get these patterns they will make six patterns I have had of you. I am very much pleased with the ones I have already had.

Respectfully yours,
MRS. F. J. LEWIS, Copopa, Ohio.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM WASHINGTON.—There is plenty of good government land in this county that can be homesteaded, and there are many squatters' claims with cabins and small clearings that can be bought cheap—from one to five hundred dollars or more, according to clearing and improvements, location and county. As always in a new country, there are those who go in ahead of surveys, and select land on purpose to sell, while there are others who get discouraged, or run short of funds, and are compelled to sell. Usually it is cheaper to buy some one's right than to take raw land. It costs about ten dollars per acre to slash the timber, and at least \$100 per acre to clear and take all the stumps out. That is seldom done except on small patches. Some lands are much more easily cleared than others. The timber is fir, spruce, hemlock cedar, alder and soft maple, the latter two kinds mostly where the land is wet. Hay, oats, wheat, potatoes and vegetables are the principal crops, and produce very large yields. Corn does not mature; the nights are too cool. There is an abundance of the purest water everywhere coming down from the melting snow on the mountains. Irrigation is not needed. The average rainfall in this part of Clallam county is about twenty-eight inches, but in the western part near the ocean it is much more. During July, August and September it usually rains but little. The winters are very mild, and with plenty of range, stock would do well all winter, except when there is heavy snow. Last winter we had about two feet, but it lasted only a couple of weeks. Back from the straits it remains on longer. Hay is worth \$10 to \$12 per ton, baled and delivered in town; potatoes, \$10 per ton; wheat and oats, \$12 to \$15 per ton; butter, 25 cents per pound; eggs, 15 cents per dozen; flour, \$2.50 to \$3.25 per barrel; hams and bacon, 12½ cents per pound. The climate is very beautiful. Malaria and fevers are very rarely heard of, and diphtheria is not known. The population of Port Angeles is about 5,000. There are no railroads here, except on paper. Port Angeles is the county-seat. We have two daily steamers for Seattle, Tacoma and way ports, and a tri-monthly steamer to San Francisco. We have no manufactures of any kind, except lumber and shingles. There are four small sawmills, and three of them make shingles. Common lumber sells at \$7.50 per thousand feet, and the best cedar shingles \$1.25 per thousand retail. We have good schools and fine school-buildings. This is a port of entry, and more ships clear here than from any other port on the Sound—over 700 the past year. Many go over to British Columbia for coal. Victoria, the capital, is only sixteen miles from Port Angeles, across the straits of Fuca. The people raised a bonus of ten thousand dollars to prospect for coal here. One hole was put down 800 feet in the gulch, where there must have been a rift in the earth from volcanic upheaval, as no solid formation was found, and it was abandoned. A new site some three miles back was selected, where, at a depth of about one hundred feet, a soft sandstone was struck, and the drill is still in this at a depth of 820 feet. The expert who is operating the drill claims the prospects favorable for coal. At Nanaimo, across the straits, they have a twelve-foot vein of very fine coal at a depth of thirteen hundred feet. The varieties of fish here are mostly salmon, halibut, cod, herring and smelts, and are sold very cheap—two to five cents per pound. Clams of best quality are abundant in all the bays of the sound. There is plenty of deer, elk and bear in the mountains. There are but few insect pests, and no venomous snakes. Everything considered, I know of no country that offers better inducements for people of small means who are willing to start in a new country, and put up with the hardships incident thereto. At present there are more people in the city than can find employment, and no one ought to think of coming out here without means of support until they could raise something themselves, and who are willing to work. This is bound to be the finest stock country in the world, as all kinds of grass and clover yield large crops and remain green nearly all the year round. The thermometer seldom ever goes below 20 degrees above zero in winter, or above 80 degrees in summer. I have been here four years, and have lately been over the county looking for a good squatter's claim for myself, believing that the time is not far off when the farmers will again be on top, and silver will be as good as gold. What is most needed is sturdy farmers. A good many men go out from here sealing, and it is a paying industry if one is able to own his boat. A very good sealing schooner can be built here for fifteen hundred to twenty-five hundred dollars, sixty to seventy-five feet in length. S. L. M.
Port Angeles, Wash.

FROM OREGON.—Klamath county is situated in southeastern Oregon, in the great belt lying south of the Blue mountain and east of the Cascade range. It is from 4,300 to 7,000 feet in altitude, the valleys ranging from 4,300 to 4,600 feet. The surface is diversified, valley and mountain. The climate is mild, the mercury rarely reaching 100° in summer or below zero in winter. The principal productions, in the order of importance, are beef, hay, rye, wheat and oats, and all kinds of vegetables. Bunch-grass grows luxuriantly on all the hills, and cattle become too fat, to suit many, in the summer and fall. Generally, they have to be fed seventy or eighty days in winter; horses will winter on the range. According to the report of the United States weather observer at this place, the greatest depth of snow at one time during last winter was nine inches, and total snowfall, forty-one inches. Game

and fish are abundant. Game consists of deer, wolves, geese, ducks, sage-hens, some panthers, wildcats and bears. The lakes are well stocked with trout weighing from three to eighteen pounds, and during the spawning season, Lost river—the main feeder of Tule, or Rhett, lake—is literally blocked with mullet. All the small fruits are doing well, and in most localities, pears, apples and plums bear abundantly. Of course, this is a frontier country, still sparsely settled, and much good government land is still available. As long as such conditions last, deeded land will sell for only about what the improvements are worth, as a settler will homestead a farm rather than give more. If a person coming here to make a home can bring enough ready cash to buy a team (unbroken horses are worth at present from \$10 to \$25), a cow (\$15), build a house (lumber, \$10 per thousand), get provisions enough for one year (flour, \$15 per one thousand pounds; beef, \$15 for a fat cow that will dress six hundred pounds), and go to work fencing, plowing and seeding, he will succeed. The standard price for all grain is one cent a pound, and hay, \$3 at harvest and \$4 at feeding time. Dairying is an important industry. J. F. W.
Lorella, Oregon.

FROM WASHINGTON.—Washington state is being developed into one of the greatest farming states in the Union. Its deep soil seems to make it one of nature's gardens for the raising of nearly all kinds of crops, especially wheat, potatoes, sugar-beets, rye, oats, hops, etc. The farmers of Puget sound and eastern Washington are now shipping train-loads of potatoes to the eastern markets. A full train-load went over the Northern Pacific the other day for the market at Chicago, and another to St. Louis. The winters are so mild on Puget sound that the farmer can work the whole winter long, building fences, plowing and clearing. The farmer has raised off of one acre of land here over 100 bushels of wheat, or 150 bushels of oats, or 1,500 bushels of potatoes, but you cannot raise this all over the state, although large yields, such as one never realizes from a single acre of ground in any of the eastern states, are raised in all parts of Washington. Not only does farming pay at even low prices, but fruit growing also, more especially the prune, apple and plum. A farmer coming here and buying forty acres of land and setting it out to these fruits can realize an independent income in less than seven years. Fruit is always in demand and at good prices, and when the home market is overstocked, there are always markets for all of your produce at good, living prices. Small fruits do well here, especially strawberries, which sell for from \$2.50 to \$3 per bushel. Hops of the Puget sound country supply the English market at present. Any person with small means and lots of grit, can settle in this state and in a few years be independent. You can buy good land at very low prices now, or you can take up government land by homesteading. If you want to know the life of the old pioneer, and have the "get-up," take up a homestead. J. F. P.
Sequin, Wash.

FROM VIRGINIA.—After farming in north-western Indiana for twenty years, I concluded to look for a more healthful climate and shorter and milder winters. I came here to south-central Virginia, Halifax county, the first of November last, and after being here seven months, like the country very well. The soil is suitable for growing all kinds of crops. The principal ones grown here are corn, oats, tobacco and all kinds of vegetables. Fruits of all kinds do exceedingly well. Apples, peaches, pears and small fruits are grown in abundance. Last winter is said to have been the coldest for many years; the mercury at one time was as low as six degrees below zero. We have a beautiful climate, pure water and a bracing atmosphere. The river bottoms along the Canaster, Dan and Stanton rivers are very rich and fertile. The uplands are somewhat rolling, and well timbered. The country is well supplied with springs, brooks and creeks, which afford necessary milling power. F. R. B.
Scottsburg, Va.

FROM NEW JERSEY.—There is plenty of cheap land in Salem county, New Jersey. It is near the best of markets, schools and churches, with good roads. A large scope of truck land lies between Elmer and Willow Grove, purchasable on good terms. At Willow Grove is a small lake, where the farmers resort in summer for picnics. This lake furnishes abundance of water-power for a large flouring and saw mill, before it empties its waters into the head of Morris river. The western border of Salem county skirts the banks of the Delaware river for miles, having truck farms situated on light, loamy soil. The midland of the county is mostly flat, clay land. Many improved farms near the city of Salem are owned by citizens, who, owing to stringent times, are obliged to sell at greatly reduced prices. W. P.
Willow Grove, N. J.

FROM ILLINOIS.—Crawford is one of the best counties for raising wheat, rye, oats, corn, and for sheep and hogs, in the state. One of our farmers raised 492 bushels of wheat from 12 acres, and many others an average of 30 to 37 bushels. Corn on the low land has yielded 90 bushels per acre; the high land, from 35 to 65 bushels. Once in awhile we raise 75 bushels per acre. We have the best of pasture land and plenty of good water. Well-improved land sells for \$50 to \$75 an acre. Some land near our county-seat will sell for \$100 per acre. We have many large orchards and raise fine fruit. We have many families living here from Ohio, Kansas and Tennessee. Our Kansas people raise large fields of tobacco. O. L. S.
Duncanville, Ill.

FROM WYOMING.—The North Platte valley is about sixty miles long by twenty-five miles wide, at an average altitude of 7,000 feet above sea-level. The staple crop is hay. Alfalfa is fast coming into favor among stockmen for fattening purposes. One company is going to put in three hundred acres next spring. Timothy also does well, and the wild grasses all make a No. 1 quality of hay. Wheat and oats are also raised quite extensively, of a No. 1 quality. Potatoes are a good paying crop. The valley expects quite an influx of immigrants this year. We have plenty of good land, and water to irrigate with, a good, healthful climate, good schools, good society, etc. S. L. R.
Saratoga, Wyoming.

WHAT WE
SAY WE DO
WE DO DO

"He had an honest look."
You've heard of him.
Perhaps you've seen him.
Possibly you've dealt with him.
And you're sorry for it now.
Still you've learned something.
You're never going to forget what it was that caught you.
It was *that honest look*.
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Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

PRESERVING EGGS FOR HIGHER PRICES.

Eggs keep best in a cool place. If exposed to too low a temperature they will freeze and crack open, but the cooler they are kept, the better. If not lower than forty degrees, or over sixty degrees, and the eggs infertile, they need no packing material. Simply place them on a rack in a cool cellar, and the eggs will remain perfectly fresh for three months, which is a sufficient length of time to permit of securing high prices. The eggs must be turned half over about twice a week, in order to prevent the yolks adhering to the shells. On these three rules, then, depend success in keeping eggs:

First, use infertile eggs; second, keep them in a cool place; third, turn them twice a week. A single spoiled egg may damage the whole lot. Use no stale eggs as nest-eggs, for they will surely find their way in with the rest. Do not buy eggs from your neighbor, as he may not have removed the males from his flock, and may unintentionally force upon you a stale egg or two that will injure those you have been so careful with. Buying eggs promiscuously, from all sources, to preserve for future sales, at an advance in prices, is risky, and we know of no one who has been successful at it. One must keep his own hens, and aim to have the eggs in the best possible condition, by discarding the males, to make this branch of the poultry business a success. It can only be properly done on the farm under the best possible conditions, but it opens up a paying field to those who will give it their attention. In preserving eggs it will pay to assort them, having all of a lot the same size, and the dark eggs should be separated from those that are light, as uniformity of size and color will add to the prices. This work should be done when they are placed on the racks. Racks may be constructed that will turn the egg automatically, and this can be done more easily when eggs of the size are together. Once an egg becomes discolored from filth, it will never again appear clean. Fresh eggs sell quickly because they have a clean and fresh appearance, and preserved eggs, if they are to be sold as fresh eggs, must be above suspicion. They will really be as fresh as newly laid eggs if these directions are followed, but the clean appearance of the eggs will be the greatest factor in selling them.

DOMESTICATION AND NATURAL LAWS.

To secure eggs from hens man must learn from nature by observing the habits of birds in their natural condition. In many cases the young of birds must be fed by their parents. In others the mother assists the young to seek its food, as in the case of the wild turkey and quail. Both classes have been domesticated. The barnyard fowl assists its young to seek food, and the pigeon feeds its young. Birds which feed their young hatch but few at a time, and work industriously to feed them, while the others, like the common hen, can be induced to lay a large number of eggs before beginning to hatch a brood. The wild birds seek what animal food they need. The demand for animal food by domestic fowls is greater, not that there is more animal food required for the support of the young of the domestic bird, but because of the constant demand for the elements which enter into the composition of the large number of eggs produced during the year. Do our hens have that animal food? It is safe to answer to the contrary in the majority of cases. During the warmer period of the year the fowls secure for themselves a fair supply, but they often have too limited an allowance in winter when they should have it in the greatest abundance. With grain they are fully supplied, as it is a convenient feed, but of the very substance which will, above all others, most promote egg production they are allowed but little. If man can make an animal or bird by selection, and adopt it to his purposes, he should be able to understand its requirements. The domesticated bird is more prolific than the wild one, and demands more food, as well as a greater variety, but the wild bird has the privilege of selecting its food, while the domesticated bird is governed entirely by conditions of domestication, though also compelled to follow natural laws.

DESTROYING LICE.

It is a difficult matter to catch hens and then thoroughly dust them with insect-powder (an efficacious remedy, however), and a cheaper mode can be used. Fill a wash-tub nearly full of soap-suds, and add a tablespoonful of liquid carbolic acid to the suds. During the middle of the day, when the sun is shining, drag each fowl backward by the legs through the suds, and then let it dry. Every louse will be destroyed. Don't be afraid to give them a good ducking, but do it well; even the heads go under. The large gray lice and the little red mites will be destroyed together. But first clean the poultry-house. Sulphur is destructive to lice, but unless care is used the sulphur often does damage. If used with lard, the grease may kill the chicks. All the feathered tribe have an abhorrence of grease in any form. A few drops of grease on the top of the head and around the vent will protect against lice to a certain extent, but when grease is rubbed on the bodies of chicks and fowls it sometimes kills. If sulphur is used in dry weather it is harmless, but if used just before or during a wet spell, it causes rheumatism. The best remedy is to dust the chicks freely with Persian insect-powder, which will drive them off the bodies, but unless the quarters and premises are thoroughly cleaned, the lice will return to the chicks. Only heroic treatment will prevent lice, which is to clean up, whitewash, coal-oil the roosts, and use plenty of Persian insect-powder.

KEEPING SCRUBS.

One reason for the lack of interest in poultry, on the part of the farmers, is the failure to manage the flock in a manner to secure the largest returns possible. It is an astonishing fact that a majority of the farmers are incapable of classifying poultry. They know very little in regard to the different breeds, and although they recognize the importance of breed in animals, yet they permit their fowls to become inbred, and take no care regarding the uniformity of the flock, or of the eggs and dressed carcasses derived therefrom. Did any farmer ever calculate how much he loses from keeping scrub fowls? If we estimate the price of eggs for the entire year at twenty cents per dozen, and the flock to number fifty hens, the difference of only one egg per month from each hen (a dozen eggs per year) will entail the loss of ten dollars. Will it not pay, then, to use a breed that will permit of each hen laying one egg more in a month? Viewed from this standpoint, the common hen is a costly luxury. We do not class grades or crosses as scrubs, but the common barnyard fowl, that is bred from any source, or by accident. The pure breeds can be made to perform the service characteristic of the breed selected, and when the farmer gives poultry the same attention in breeding as is devoted to larger stock, he will find that, in proportion to capital investment, poultry will prove the most profitable stock on the farm.

PURE BREEDS OF GESE.

Only the common geese have the males and females different in plumage. All the pure breeds have the sexes colored the same. The Toulouse is the largest, and the China the best layers. The Embden is the best for feathers, being pure white in color. A cross of the Toulouse gander and Embden goose makes the best for market. The gander may be known by being thicker around the neck, and more masculine in appearance. Though geese derive much of their subsistence when allowed to have access to a pond, yet they may be pastured, or may be kept in confinement and fed on grass, turnips (chopped), potatoes and grain. The goose lays from twenty to forty eggs, and the gander keeps a faithful watch over her at times when she is on the nest. When sitting, it is best to disturb her as little as possible. She makes a good mother, and usually raises all her young ones.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS TO THE WEST.

On May 21st and June 11th, The North-Western Line (Chicago & North-Western Railway) will sell excursion tickets at very low rates to a large number of points in the West and Northwest. For full information apply to ticket agents of connecting lines, or address C. Traver, T. P. A., Marine National Bank Building, Pittsburg, Pa.; F. M. Snively, T. P. A., 151 St. Clair street, Cleveland, Ohio.

I have ordered six patterns from you, and am delighted with them. I shall do all I can to get new subscribers for your paper.

FANNIE KING, Charleston, Ark.

A CROSS THAT GIVES QUALITY.

The Games stand at the head of all breeds for the table. For crossing, the Pit Games will answer well, but the Indian Game, however, is as large as some of the Asiatics, and has become a favorite. Cockerels for the table may be greatly improved by caponizing when they are young. It increases their size and improves them in quality of flesh. The gray Dorking male will greatly improve a common flock, and serve better in that respect than the colored Dorking, on account of being a superior forager. The reason why these crosses are not made by poultrymen, to sell in the markets, is that the majority of buyers judge by the color of the skin and legs, and suppose that a fowl with yellow legs is superior to one with dark legs, when in fact the best table fowls have legs of some other color than yellow. Another drawback is that the chicks of the Game, Dorking and Houdan breeds are not as hardy as the chicks of the Brahma and Plymouth Rock breeds. It does not pay to lose a number of the chicks in order to get the remainder to a market where they must compete with the more hardy birds of an inferior quality but with yellow legs.

The only way to secure a choice table fowl is to raise it yourself, or have it raised to order; and it must be done by one who knows how to breed and feed. Few know how superior a cross of the above breeds is to common fowls for the table, and no doubt a wide and profitable field is open to him who will educate his customers up to a knowledge of what choice fowl is, particularly if the customers are willing to pay for the luxury. Where one has a space sufficient for a male and six hens, quite a large number of chicks can be raised, especially if sitting hens be procured from some other source for incubating the eggs and brooding the chicks.

KEEP THE BEST.

Each hen will make known her faults and virtues, even if her good qualities cannot be discovered. When she lays an egg she makes a noise about it, and her comb looks bright and scarlet during her busy season. When she is adding nothing to her egg-basket she sings no songs, her comb shrivels and becomes pale. Each hen indicates when she is a producer. The farmer or poultryman can select the profitable from those that consume food without rendering an equivalent. Every flock contains a few hens that are superior to the others. The flock as such may not pay for its support, yet it may have in it one or two hens that cannot be surpassed as layers. But the few productive hens may have imposed upon them the task of supporting all the idlers, simply because the account is kept with the flock instead of with them. As the eggs gathered are from the whole number of hens, the idlers soon disgust their owner, who sends the entire flock to the market-stalls as unprofitable.

TABLE SCRAPS.

A small flock which receives the scraps from the table produces eggs when larger flocks are unprofitable. The fact is plain that the smaller flock receives better feeding. Table scraps are not grains. They contain a variety not found in the rations of a large flock. Bread, meat, potatoes and cooked vegetables of several kinds, as well as the sour milk, and even cake and pie, are included, to say nothing of peas and beans, which are the best of all egg-producing vegetables. This variety not only provides the hens with the elements needed for egg production, but it promotes digestion and prevents disease. This kind of food would be costly if it were not the waste of the table, for it requires labor to prepare it. But as the result of feeding scraps is a production of eggs, it is safe to say that if the same food, labor and care could be bestowed on a thousand hens as a small flock receives, the profits would be proportionately larger. This may appear like going too far with feeding methods, but facts prove the theory. The small flock, fed from the table, found on every farm demonstrates what may be done.

The difficulty with a large number of fowls would be to learn the sources from which to procure food other than grain. To prepare a large amount of table scraps requires a building and utensils in which to cook the food. These preparations mean an outlay which the farmer is not willing to incur. The table scraps consumed by the small flock would otherwise be wasted or fed in some less profitable way. For a large flock this food must be

prepared, and this costs extra labor at least. It is plain, then, that as labor is the heaviest item of expense, a hen that is a member of a large flock, although she may lay the same number of eggs every year, can never give as large a profit as when she is a member of a small flock.

MAKING A MARKET.

The egg market is one that is never supplied. There are thousands of dozens of eggs shipped to market, but no matter how many may arrive, there is a demand for those that are choice. It is not necessary to send eggs off to the large cities to get good prices, for in every town and village will be found a class of buyers who desire only strictly prime eggs, and they will pay something more than the regular price for them. The reason you do not get higher prices is because you do not make known the fact that you have extra quality eggs for sale. Nor can you expect purchasers to seek you, as they may not know that you can supply them. The proper plan is to go among those who will buy and build up a custom. Let it be known that they can get better eggs from you than from the stores, and there will be no difficulty in selling, nor is it necessary to go very far in some sections, as eggs are salable everywhere, and for cash, at better prices than any other products of the farm.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN EGG RECORD.—I am a subscriber for your valuable paper, and will say I consider it the best paper for the price I have ever seen. I am especially interested in the poultry department, and find in it a great deal that is of value and interest to poultry raisers, especially new beginners like myself. I have thirteen hens, one old hen and twelve pullets. Ten are Plymouth Rock and three are a mixture of Brahma and White Leghorn. I have kept a strict account for the first three months of this year, with this result: Whole number of eggs laid, 609; market price of eggs at the time highest price, forty cents, and lowest, twenty cents; total value of eggs, \$14.46; whole expense of feeding them, including bone, shell, etc., was \$3.90, leaving a profit of \$10.50. We think it a very good showing for beginners. Please tell Mrs. L. P. L., of Tilton, Louisiana, that I have no trouble now with my hens eating oats, and think sometimes they would eat carpet-tacks if I fed them, they have such appetites.

Southington, Ct.

C. C. E.

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Our Fireside.

A BOY'S BATTLE.

BY WILL ALLEN DROMGOOLE.

CHAPTER II.

THE BATTLE BEGINS.

By the time the bay mare reached the big gate of his father's plantation, Andrew had to some extent recovered his senses. He had shot some one; he was sure of that. He believed that he had killed a man. Aside from the bare thought, the horror, of having slain a human being, he was doubly harassed with the knowledge of having run away without first ascertaining if the man were really dead.

"I might, at the least, have been able to get him a drink of water," was his thought. "Wounded men always want water. I could have brought him some; there's the river not far away."

Once there had come to him an idea of turning back. He had not meant to hurt anybody, and he was tempted to go back and run the risk of the punishment he fully believed would be meted out to him should it be discovered that he had done the shooting. Perhaps he could get back without being seen; he could find out if the man was dead. If not, he would need assistance; if he was dead—

He shuddered, and gave the mare a cut with the whip. Go back? Not for the world. He was afraid.

The mare neither stopped nor slackened her speed until she stood at the farm gate. He leaned from his seat to lift the long wooden latch, when suddenly a thought flashed through his brain that brought him again upright in his saddle.

"Oh, God!" he whispered. "What if it was Uncle Jack?"

Without another word, he wheeled the bay and sent her galloping back over the road they had but just traveled.

The sun had set. There were heavier shadows among the purple-berried cedars than when he had last passed beneath their jagged boughs, but here and there in the open spaces where the woods had been partly cleared away, long, gray dashes of daylight still lay upon the white turnpike.

It was intensely still, save for the loud, resounding hoof-beats, that had never seemed to so ring and reverberate. The quick, metallic sound of the mare's shoes striking the hard, well-beaten limestone, beat into his ears like iron hammers striking an anvil. Once a screech-owl darted from a tree upon his right with a shrill note of alarm; but so engrossed was he with his own forebodings that he forgot the charm given him, since he could remember, at the negro quarters, for warding off the bad luck that always hides in the screech-owl's cry—"Turu yo' pockets en yo' wristbauds innards out, else dey'll be a death in the family, sho'." But Andrew had room in his brain for but one thought:

"What if I have killed poor Uncle Jack? What if I have killed Uncle Jack?"

He was only a boy, and totally ignorant of the law. He might be hung, for all he knew. It was an accident, to be sure. But how was he to prove that, since there had been no witnesses to the deed? No witness? Then why need he tell, since nobody knew? Nobody need ever know unless he chose to tell it; nobody could ever know—or if they could or did, they would not understand that it was an accident, that he did not mean to shoot him. "Nobody," said he, "but just Uncle Jack himself; he'll understand, but the law never would."

So confident was he that the victim was Uncle Jack that he had begun to think of him as dead, and therefore understanding how it was that he had killed him.

The next moment, just ahead of him he saw a figure emerge from the shadow along the roadside into the open clearing. In the uncertain light he was unable at first to make out who it was; but there was something familiar in the short, heavy figure, that limped a little and carried a gun slung across his shoulder. In his left hand he held a rabbit by one hind leg, and the bushy tail of a gray squirrel was waving from his coat-pocket. A moment's careful inspection, and then Andrew gave a sudden shout:

"Uncle Jack? Oh, Uncle Jack? Is it you? Oh, I'm so glad—so glad and thankful! You are not hurt? You are not—dead?"

He pulled the mare up and sat, half laughing, half sobbing, while the familiar figure limped heavily across the road and stood at his side.

"Des lis'n at dat, now, will somebody? What ails of you, son, ter be 'lowin' I'm a daid man? I's mighty poly, ter be sho', en I ain' so young en spry ez I useter wuz, but sholy, de

little marster ain' gwine he mistookiu' ob me fur a daid co'pse."

Notwithstanding the light words, however, Andrew detected the serious tone in the old man's voice. And how weary he looked, and troubled. Something was surely wrong.

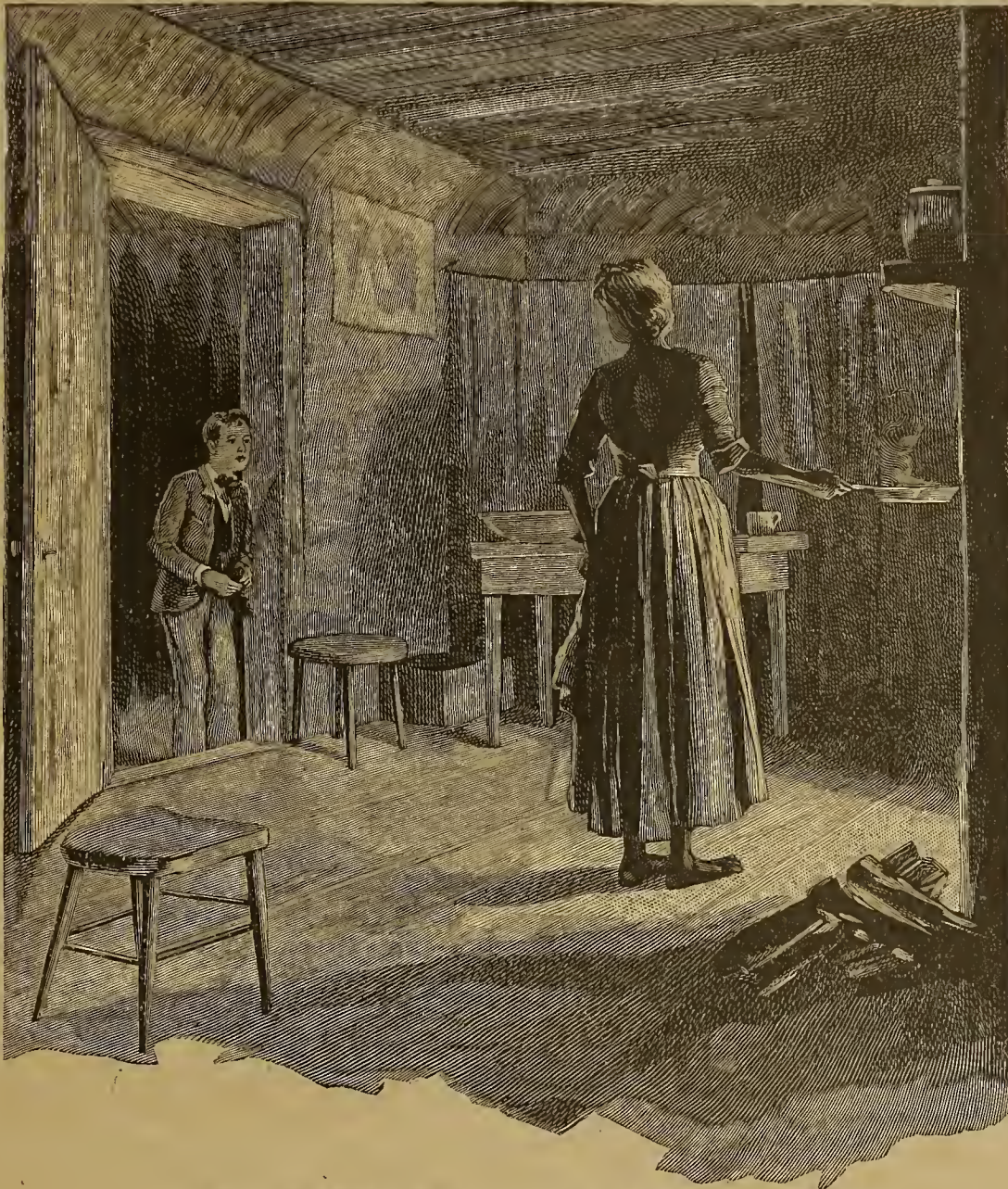
"Oh, Uncle Jack," said he, "are you hurt?"

"Wbo, me?" was the reply.

"Yes, you. Don't trifle with me; I'm not in

trouble, ef de rabbit kilt in de grabeyard ob a Sadday ebenin'. So dar it am."

He shifted the gun to the hollow of his elbow, and with his free hand drew from his pocket the still warm, limp foot of the rabbit he had shot in the old Indian burying-ground down in a bend of Stone river. Into the troubled old face sprang a gleam of hope, as the charm was offered, in the name of friend-



"I WAS SENT OVER HERE TO TELL YOU THAT UNCLE PETE IS—COMING HOME."

a humor for it. I was terribly frightened. Did you—did I—did anybody shoot at you?"

"Et me?"

"Answer me," said Andrew, almost angrily.

"Did anybody shoot anybody? Is anybody hurt, or dead, or wounded?"

The negro slowly slipped the gun through his hand until the stock rested upon the ground, his hand closed upon the muzzle; in the other he still held the three-footed rabbit. The fresh, undried blood upon the hind stump told that the left foot had been lately severed from the trunk.

"Little marster," said the negro, "dey's someun hurt in de woods ober yonder. Dey wuz layin' in de cedar brake down dar on de side todes de ribber. Dey's hurt toler'ble bad, I reckon; but dey ain' daid yit. I heeard a gun, en bein' ez I wuzn't so mighty fur off, I tromped ober dar ter try en make out ef some pusson wuz hurt, or daid, or des wounded, lack you say. Eu dar in de brake, under a grape-vine tree, I fonn'd a colored man wid a bullet in his haid. He ain' kuow nuffin et fus', tell I fotched some water in my hat frum de ribber en flung it in his face. Den I staid long o' him tell some o' de han's frum a place up de pike come 'long in a wagin en tuck him in. Dey's got him now, en dey's comin' slow, so's not ter jistle of him none."

"Will he die? Will he, Uncle Jack?" said Andrew in a hoarse, low whisper.

"De signs don't say dat he will, son; en no mo' duz dey say dat he won't. But lemme distinue de story widout incorruption, ef you please, sab. He'd ought not ter been shot. He ain' a bad nigger when he's sober, en he'd ought ter be let live. But I reckon de one dat shoot him done think he wuz doin' Uuc' Jack a mighty big favor; but 'tain' so, son, 'tain'—"

"But that wasn't the reason—"

"Don't incorrupt me, son," said Jack. "Ez I wuz sayin', de one what shoot dat Yeller Pete sholy wuz aimin' ter favor me."

"Pete!" cried Andrew. "Was it Yellow Pete?"

"Hit sholy wuz, son. En ole Jack's mighty sorry fur hit. Dat ain' de right way ter do. Dis ole nigger talk mighty big 'bout Pete ter-day, but hit wuz all talk; des done ter pleasure his oily ole mouf a bit. He didn't want Pete hurt sho' nuff. Dat ain' right; dat ain' de way de Book say do. Now you look here, son. I fotched you dis; I kilt in de woods, in de ole grabeyard whar I heeard tell dey useter hurry de Injuns, way back. En I cut de bebin' foot off fur you, because I feared you might git inter trouble some time, en I heeard tell de lef' bebin' foot ob de rabbit gwine git you out de

ship. Andrew regarded it silently, without touching it.

"Take it, son, hit's a charm. I doue heeard dat eber since I wuz a little boy."

"I don't want it," said Andrew. "If trouble is going to come to me, no foot of a dead hare is going to keep it off. You ought to know better than that."

"Take it, son," said the negro. "Mebbe 'twon't do no good, but it cau't do no harm. Trouble am gwine ter come—hit's in de win'. Take dis here foot ef you keers anything 'tall 'bout ole Jack what helt you in his arms de day you war boruded, en what helt yo' pappy befo' you, en what laid yo' own gran'pa in de coffin, 'ca'se his own folks wuz all gone ter de war. Take it."

He was stuffing the precious charm into the boy's pocket while he spoke. A devout Christian, the old man still possessed all the superstitions of his race. He was excited, frightened, Andrew thought; and the hand holding the rabbit's foot trembled so that he could scarcely find the pocket into which he was determined to deposit the treasure.

"Ole Jack knows," he continued. "He knows what de bes'. He heen here long time. En ter-day he done furgit to fetch his cujure bag 'long wid him, en des look et de trouble what am come—Yeller Pete shot, en de good Lord only knows who am gwine ter suffer fur hit. Dar's de rabbit foot in yo' poeket; killed in de grabeyard. De bes' o' luck, sholy. En now, son, you jist git 'long home fas' ez dat mare kin trot. Hit ain' bealfy out here dis time o' day. You run 'long home."

Still Andrew hesitated. He wanted to know more of Pete and his injuries. He had an idea that Uncle Jack was not telling all there was to tell. But for once Uncle Jack was in a hurry. Far down the pike his quick ear had caught the crunching sound of wheels moving slowly and heavily along the road.

"G'long, son," he commanded. "G'long en tell Sist. Lize dey's fetchin' Pete home. Tell her dat he's been hurt a little. Mind you don't tell her too much; she's mighty feety when she's skeered. Des say he's some hurt; en dat all you say ter Sist. Lize. You kin tell yo' pa what's in yo' heart ter tell. Won't you go on, son? I hear de wagin now."

He put his hand upon the bit and gave the mare a dexterous turn, heading her homeward. But it was difficult to get Andrew off. Frightened, undecided, and ignorant as to the extent of the harm done to Pete, he was held to the spot by a sort of fascination that was only part fear, after all. Uncle Jack literally drove him off.

"Did he—did Yellow Pete—ever come to his senses? Did he say he knew—who did it?" he asked over his shoulder as the mare started homeward.

"He wakened up ter hisse'f long 'nough, ter know me," said Uncle Jack; "eu fur a mau mos' daid, he sholy make out ter say toler'ble peart ter de han's in de wagin dat it wuz me what done shoot him."

"But you didn't—"

"Sholy, sholy; in co'se. Honey, 'less you gwine on dis minute, I'll be boun' ter gib de mare a lick. I's gwine ter clomb dis fence en light out by de paf through de low groun'. Dem niggers baek dar in de wagin' ain' in no Fo'th-o'-July temper, I tell you. Dat dey ain'. En it wouldn't tek much ter put it inter dey haid's ter gib somebody de chances ob roostin' on a cedar limb dis night. Dat's buccome I say you better go home 'fo' dey gits here, en say what you hab got ter say ter yo' pa, eu ter nobody else."

A mob! The hint was sufficient to send the bay mare spinning homeward as though a bomb had exploded at her heels. Andrew had never been so frightened in his life. He knew what these mobs of ignorant, hot-blooded men meant. He understood something of the lax law which had made these people something of a law unto themselves. And once fully started upon their work of revenge, he knew that no law in the land could check them. They would surely hurt some one. In all probability it would be Uncle Jack, since no living soul knew of his part in the tragedy. So he told himself; so he thought.

But did nobody know? The thought suddenly came to him, in that mad gallop down the shadowy turnpike, that Uncle Jack knew all about it. The more he thought of it the more he felt convinced that this was the case. His warning to tell nobody but his father, his idea that whoever fired the shot that had struck poor Pete had done so from a mistaken belief that the deed would be a kindness to him—all these things convinced him that Uncle Jack, from some unseen point, had witnessed the whole affair.

Moreover, he had suggested to him, at the same time he was carefully concealing his own knowledge of the trouble, a way out of it, a course to pursue that could not fail to be the wisest recourse left him—"Tell yo' pa all that's in yo' mind."

To be sure; that was what he had intended doing at the very first. But now, with the possibility of a

mob at his heels, he was afraid to part with his fatal secret. Afraid to even trust his father. He was not positive that Uncle Jack

A Startling Admission.

In New York City, for five consecutive years, the proportion of Deaths from Consumption has been three in every Twenty Persons.

Epidemics of Cholera, Yellow Fever and other diseases of similar character, so terrible in their results, occasion wide spread alarm and receive the most careful consideration for their prevention and cure, while consumption receives scarcely a thought, yet the number of their victims sinks into insignificance when compared with those of consumption. Comparatively few people know what to do for their loved ones when they see them gradually lose strength, lose color, manifest feeble vitality and emaciation, or develop a cough, with difficult breathing, or hemorrhage. Cod liver oil was for a long time given in all such cases, but the poor success attending its use coupled with its nauseating taste has led many practitioners, as well as the public at large, to place their main reliance in Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It deserves early attention and will prove effectual not in every case but in a large percentage of cases, and we believe that fully 93 per cent. of all cases of consumption can, if taken in the early stages of the disease, be cured with the "Discovery." Dr. Pierce does not ask people to believe until they have investigated for themselves. A pamphlet has been published having the names, addresses and photographs of a large number of those cured of consumption, bronchitis, lingering coughs, asthma, chronic nasal catarrh and kindred maladies which will be mailed free to those sending for it with their name and address upon a postal card, or you can have a medical treatise, in book form of 160 pages, mailed to you, on receipt of address and six cents in stamps. You can then write those cured and learn their experiences.

Address for Book, WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Buffalo, N. Y.

really knew, and so, thought he, "If nobody on earth knows, nobody can possibly tell. And if Uncle Jack knows, he will never, never tell—not to save his own life."

"Yet," said a voice in his heart, "you would betray him? Leave a friend like that, one who would die for you—you would leave him to suffer, when a word from you would relieve him of suspicion? You, who call yourself a brave boy and who expect some day to be regarded as an honorable man? Fie, you are a coward! Do you not know that the boy devoid of honor can develop into nothing but that which is base? Go home and tell your father. Be a man, and always remember that it is a very dark road out of which a loving father can fail to lead an erring son."

Yes, he would go home and tell his father. No, he might be arrested and—hung! He was terribly at sea. Varied impulses were tearing him. One moment he would have fled, would have ridden the hay mare right on down that road and out of reach of danger forever. The next he would have turned to meet the men in the wagon and proclaimed himself the guilty party.

"I'll go straight and tell father," he exclaimed, as the mare stopped at the farm gate. "Just as soon as I can run up to Big Liza's house and tell her they are coming."

He rode into the lot, dismounted, and throwing the reins over a hitching-post, without stopping to remove the saddle from the mare, went down the path that would bring him to Pete's cabin, just beyond the locust grove.

The moon was rising when he reached the house, the door of which stood wide open. A tall, yellow woman stood mixing some meal batter in a wooden tray at a table near the open fireplace, where a fire of hickory logs was burning. She was so tall, in the red firelight the strong, large frame assumed masculine proportions. As she stooped to lay the batter upon the hoe, Andrew had a perfect view of her face. She was a mulattress, and had straight, black hair and a complexion that justified the belief that Big Liza had Indian blood in her veins. It was not a bad face, however, that bent over the smoking hoe—cake in the glaring, red firelight, but rather an emotional one, and belonged to a nature easily and strongly moved by excitement. Andrew hesitated. The corn-cake had begun to steam. The woman reached a pan and began to take from it the thin strips of streaked bacon. It seemed a pity to spoil her poor little supper, but it must be done. Misfortune is not a chooser of propitious moments for letting its blows fall.

Andrew stepped into the room and called softly, half afraid of his own voice:

"Aunt Liza?"

The woman gave a startled little scream and turned toward him.

"Lor', chile, how you skeered me! What ails you, ter come down here dis time o' day? Is yo' ma sick, or somefin'?"

"Aunt Liza," said Andrew, with an idea of breaking the bad news lightly, "I was sent over here to tell you that Uncle Pete is—coming home."

"Land o' Goshen! I'm s'prised ter hear dat, now, sho," she replied in her dry, mirthless way, "bein' ez dat's what he most allers does, if," she added, "he ain' too drunk ter git here."

"I mean," said Andrew, "that he has been hurt some."

The iron spoon rattled to the floor.

"Ought ter git his haid busted," she declared, though she had begun to dry her hands upon her apron nervously, preparatory to making ready for his coming. "Ought ter git his haid busted, en see ef he'll be so raidy ter go off huntin' up a qua'l wid folks ez ain' troublin' him none. He'll git hisse'f kilt, some o' dese days, en hit'll be good fur him."

"Oh, Aunt Liza!" said Andrew, forgetting Uncle Jack's instructions, "don't talk that way. He may be killed already. He has been shot by—somebody—"

The woman seemed suddenly to have been transformed into a different creature. She threw up her long arms and uttered a loud, shrill cry.

"Hit wuz dat ole Unc' Jack done it! He done it! Bliud Sam done heeard him say he gwine kilt him! Stan' ont de way dar, chile; lemme git ont o' here."

She pushed past him out into the moonlight, with her long hair loosened about her shoulders, uttering her shrill, wailing cries, until the inmates of the neighboring cabins came running out to learn what was the matter.

"Sist. Kelline," she cried, "ole Unc' Jack's done kilt my ole man! Pete's daid! Ole Unc' Jack done it. Blind Sam heeard him threat him, en now he's daid. Whar's marster? Lemme git ter marster."

She was so noisy, so sudden and so vehement in her denunciations of Uncle Jack, that Andrew had not time to fully comprehend what she was saying before she was gone.

He followed her, more slowly, to the house. Her vehemence frightened him. He was afraid to confess that he was the guilty party; yet to be silent was torture. To speak might mean death.

When he stood in the door of the farmhouse, he saw his father standing in the center of the large, well-lighted hall, his mother near, and before them, Liza, with uplifted hands, declaring in a loud voice that Uncle Jack had slain her husband. He saw his father step forward and catch the strong, uplifted hands in his and force the woman to sit down. He saw the dark shapes of men, women

and children scurrying across the yard in the direction of the farm-house; and then he heard his father's voice, positive, indignant, kind:

"Just try to control yourself, Liza," he said. "I promise you that if your husband has been killed, the guilty party shall be punished. I don't care who it may be."

The master looked around, saw the shrinking figure at the door, and said:

"Come in here, sir, and tell all you know about this unhappy business. Who shot Pete? And who sent you here with the news of the accident? Come in, sir."

In there, before all those eager faces? Into all that light? And with a lie in his heart? He felt as though every eye there must look straight down through his lips' evasion and read in his heart all that his cowardly silence would conceal. No; if he went in there to speak, he would speak the truth, if he died for it. He saw his mother's eye, gentler than he had ever known, fixed upon him. He hesitated a moment, then stepped into the center of the group.

"Father," he began, "as I came down the pike, I—"

There was a shuffling, uncertain step upon the veranda; uncertain in that whosoever step it might be was lame.

"Go on, sir," said the master. "Who shot Uncle Pete? Who sent you to Liza?"

The step came nearer, straight to the open door, across the threshold and into the room; straight to the master, before all that sea of dark, excited faces, and stopped.

"I done hit, marster; I sent de young marster ter tell you all Pete wuz hurt some. He ain' daid, doubtin' hit be since I left him, out dar under de cedar-tree wid de grape-vines in it."

And Uncle Jack shifted his three-footed rabbit to his other hand as complacently, to all appearances, as though he had not at that moment tacitly assumed the blame of Pete's death, in order to give Andrew an opportunity to make his confession quietly, to his father, before making the matter known to the excitable group about the doors and windows.

When it was known that Pete was not dead, the negroes went back to their homes, and the farmer went out, taking Uncle Jack with him.

"Keep out of the way awhile," said he, "until Liza calms down and we see how it goes with Pete. It is a very ugly business you have gotten yourself into, let me tell you. Don't go among the hands. You will be sure to get into a quarrel; and don't stop at your own cabin to-night. There's the gin, or the barn—"

"Marster," said Uncle Jack, "I ain' got no call ter be hidin' out same lack I wuz a fox dodgin' o' the hounds. I sholy ain'. I reckon I best be gittin' home ter my ole woman. Sholy, sholy."

And shouldering the gun that he had left outside when he went into the house, he trudged off to the cabin, where Aunt Jenny, in her anxiety, had forgotten to get any supper ready.

A little later there came the noise of horses' hoofs down the turnpike; the big gate swung back, and a party of three, with pistols at their belts, dismounted and passed noiselessly down the path in the direction of the cabin. They had left their horses at the hitching-post, so that none at the farm-house knew of their coming until Aunt Jenny burst into the room where the family had sat down to supper.

"Marster," she cried, "fur de lub ob de good Lord, come! De sheriff am come ter fetch Jack ter jail!"

[To be continued.]

THE DAKOTA HOT SPRINGS.

The Hot Springs of Arkansas have long been deservedly popular, for the reason that there has been no other place that has filled the requirements of both a health and a pleasure resort. This state of affairs has changed. The Hot Springs of South Dakota have, in recent years, been thrown open to the people, and because of their delightful situation and great curative qualities, are becoming more popular every day. Situated as this resort is, in the famous Black Hills, in the midst of beautiful mountain scenery, possessing that peculiar balsamic atmosphere which is in itself health giving, with waters that are pronounced by experts equal if not superior to those of any other mineral springs in the world, it will soon outrank any other like resort.

The hotel accommodations are of the best—hostelries with all the modern improvements and conveniences. The Evans Hotel, built of pink sandstone, with steam heat, electric lights, and every room an outside one, is easily the best-conducted house between Chicago and Denver. Fine bath-houses are connected with the best hotels. The rates of all the hotels are very reasonable. The surrounding country is more than picturesque—it is wonderful. The marvelous "Wind Cave;" the falls of Fall River; Battle Mountain, the old Indian battle-ground; Deadwood and the gold fields, and the famous Bad Lands are all within driving distance. The mammoth plunge bath at the Springs is noted as being one of the largest natatoriums in the world. So healthful are the surroundings, and so many the conveniences of this "Carlsbad of America," that it is rapidly becoming the "Mecca," not only for invalids, but for pleasure-seekers as well. The "Burlington Route" reaches there in a day and a half from St. Louis. Pullman sleepers and free chair cars on train No. 15 run to Lincoln, and from Lincoln free chair cars and sleepers run through to the Springs.

For further information, call on any "Burlington Route" Agent, or address D. O. Ives, G. P. and T. A., St. Louis, Mo.

PAINT AND POWDER.

The art of ornamenting or embellishing the face most probably dates back to the days of the first man and woman; and if history tells us nothing about Mother Eve having made use of it, we are inclined to think that that is because history is defective, and not because the art was not known in those days.

One of the earliest known forms of personal embellishment is that of painting the face with bright colors. It is most probable that this originated in a desire to instil fear into the hearts of one's enemies, rather than from motives of vanity; but that which served to frighten men seemed to attract the women, so it gradually came about that warriors painted their faces even in times of peace.

Among the Fijians the first dress of an infant is a thick layer of oil painted all over the body, the face being painted red, with the exception of the nose, which is allowed to remain in its original color—that is, black. The well-to-do people divide the face into four parts, each being painted a different color.

Time brought a development of the art of improving the appearance. Glaring colors gave way to more refined cosmetics and a more complicated method of using them.

It became the custom to use cosmetics. Everybody used them—kings, queens, rich women and poor women, warriors—even the mummies were painted.

Later on, when Roman civilization was at its height, the Egyptians still claimed to hold their position as chief makers and users of cosmetics, and the Roman empresses paid large sums for the mysteries of the kosmetikon which were sold by the charlatans of the temple of Isis.

In Nineveh people resorted to the process of enameling the countenance. The face was first washed and thoroughly dried, then covered with a whitish paste which dried hard and shiny like enamel.

The Jews made great use of such preparations for personal adornment, as we see by the Second Book of Kings (ix. 30). The prophets often speak on this subject, and threaten the punishment of heaven on those who thus sought to improve the human face.

Although the Greek men thought more of physical strength than of artificial beauty, the women believed in red and white powders, and the poets went so far as to say that Venus herself, on one critical occasion, did not hesitate to have recourse to artificial embellishment.

During the time of the Cæsars the use of cosmetics increased to an alarming extent; the men were as bad as the women.

Popea, one of the wives of Nero, used to take with her a troop of 500 asses, so that she could enjoy the luxury of a bath in asses' milk, which was supposed to have the property of making the skin tender.

Phyllis, the maid of the beautiful Soema, actually wrote a treatise on the most efficacious cosmetics.

The Germanic and Frank ladies of the middle ages were noted for their desire to have arms and hands of ivory whiteness and cheeks of a rose tint.

The English ladies of the twelfth century chose to appear with pale faces, to obtain which they had recourse to cosmetics and to "cupping."

But the Florentine ladies excelled even the Romans. They had 300 methods or preparation for the simple purpose of hiding wrinkles; in fact, the use of cosmetics reached such a pitch that the priests considered it necessary to pronounce against them.

Then the fashion changed, and everything was made white; faces were powdered, hair was powdered, and both sexes seemed to vie with each other as to which should use the most.

A later method of adornment was the "patch." This was first used to show up the delicacy of the complexion, but in a very short time it had developed to such an extent that there were at least twenty in common use, with such names as "sympathetic patch," "love patch," "majestic patch," etc.

SALOONS IN SWEDEN.

"I saw something of the workings of the systems in Sweden and Norway," Dr. Moxam said to the Springfield Republican. "I visited more saloons last summer than I had seen before in my life. I examined the liquors carefully, found out what kinds were most sold, and how many glasses a man can buy. In Bergen there are in the neighborhood of a dozen places where liquor is sold by the glass or bottle. Each is a plain room, perfectly clean, without even a picture on the wall. There is not even a chair in the room, except a stool behind the counter for the official in charge. He is a respectable man, probably a member of the church. On the walls are the printed rules of the company, which all must obey. If a man asks for aqua vita, he lays down his coin—there is no credit—and pure, undrugged spirit is poured out for him. He is not allowed to remain in the room, and if he wants another glass he is told to come back in three hours. The glass is so small that he might take a glass every three hours in the day and not get drunk. A working-man cannot take a nip on his way to work, for the saloons do not open till eight o'clock; nor at noon, for the saloons close from twelve to half-past one o'clock. The hour for closing in the winter is half-past seven, and in summer eight o'clock. The day before a holiday they

close at noon, and they are closed before the working-men are paid off.

"No man can make a cent from the business. The man behind the counter is employed for his personal character. He gets a fairly good salary, but not a cent from the business. If he deviates from the rules of the company, he is bounced at once. He is promoted for making as small sales as possible. The policy of the whole system is to crowd down the consumption of alcohol. In 1876 the per capita consumption was 3.8 quarts; in 1892 it was reduced to 3.3 quarts. Norway and Sweden were the most drunken countries in Europe; now, Norway is three times as sober as the United States. It is the exact reverse of a license system, under which the licensed dealers stimulate trade as much as possible to get back the money they have paid for their licenses. I think it would be better to have free whisky than such license as we have in many American cities. The difference between that and this is as great as the difference between day and night. The Norwegian system eliminates politics entirely. It has been argued that it makes drunkenness respectable, but its effect has been to elevate the public spirit and array it against drunkenness. The system has been recognized as working against the monster of drink, and it has become less respectable to patronize a saloon."

QUEEN'S HOUSE SERVANTS.

Queen Victoria's household is a large one, consisting of just under a thousand persons, for the maintenance of whom the nation sets apart the sum of two and a half million dollars every year. Most of the posts are sinecures, or fixtures, for life.

In the early part of Queen Victoria's reign a mistress of the robes may possibly have done a few hours' work in the year, giving orders that the apparel of the sovereign should be carefully preserved from moth and dust, renewing the regal ermine, velvet and lace at stated times, and seeing that the crown jewels were always locked up safely after a public airing.

She could also affix her name to warrants empowering one worthy tradesman to sell sewing cotton to the royal household and allowing others to put up the royal arms over their doors because their various wares were bought by personages of illustrious degree.

Harriet Stenderland's signature was almost as good an addition to business advertisements as "To the Queen" emblazoned in big gilt letters over the shops.

Some of the posts are entirely ornamental, and others have very little duty attached to them. Probably the only additions to the household since the time of Henry VIII. are two steam-apparatus men.

Although there is no longer a royal barge, nor any pageantry on the Thames, there are still a bargemaster and a waterman, with a salary each of \$2,000 a year.

For the past 200 years there has been no hawking in the forest of Windsor, but the office of grand falconer, held by the Duke of St. Albans, has only been suppressed within the last two years.

There are four table-deckers, whose sole duty is to lay the dinner-cloth and see that the plates, dishes and cutlery are fairly set forth.

There is also a wax-fitter, who sees the candles properly disposed, and a first and second lamp-lighter, who receive the same salary as that of the poet laureate, which is \$500 a year.

This may seem shabby payment, but it must be confessed that most of the poets laureate have been overpaid for the stuff supplied.

Then there is the "keeper of the swans," who annually pockets \$150 for looking after the sacred birds on the royal waters. Lastly, there is the "queen's rat-catcher," who is especially attached to Buckingham Palace.

His salary, \$75, is provided outside the civil list. Every session the House of Commons, in committee of supply, considers this vote and gravely agrees to it.

WHAT IMMIGRATION COSTS.

There is one aspect of the immigration question that appeals purely to business men. The social and moral influences on the American people of the unrestrained horde of Europeans pouring upon our shores are, of course, the most important, but the heavy tax in money thus levied upon the American people is not to be disregarded.

According to the last census, in addition to those of foreign parentage, the persons of foreign birth supported at the public charge of the people of the United States were divided as follows:

Insane.....	35,300
Criminal.....	15,932
Panper.....	27,648

Total.....78,880

The average annual cost of a pauper, a lunatic or a prisoner in the conservative and economically managed public institutions of Massachusetts is one hundred and fifty dollars.

The annual cost, then, of maintaining this staid army of foreign-born vagabonds is not less than \$11,832,000.

If to this could be added the expense of maintaining the American-born children of foreign paupers, vagabonds and criminals, the figures would be even more startling, but unfortunately the figures on parentage are defective.—Commercial Bulletin.

FULL OF BEAUTY.

Here's the beauty of the meadows—stretching far and far away.
And the tinkling of the dewdrops on the daisies every day!
And the sun is growing brighter as it streams from east to west,
And the heart is growing lighter, and the love is growing best!

Here's the singing of the mocking-birds; why, when the day ain't bright
They keep their mellow music, and they sing to you at night!
And the groves become all glorious, and the hills assume a light
That is splendid for the singing of the mocking-birds at night!

Here's the greening of the maples, with their twinkling, tinkling leaves,
And the silkworm with the beauty and the wonder that he weaves!
And "here's your lady's dresses!" and the spider-webs, like milk,
And the whole world is in purple, and in scarlet, and in silk!

Oh, the world is growing brighter, no matter how it rolls!
The sunshine's streaming whiter through a million, trillion souls!
And there's nothing like the present, and there's nothing like the past,
And it's all so mighty pleasant that we wish that life would last!

—Frank L. Stanton.

SURVIVAL OF JOKES.

Some of the commonest phrases in politics have originated in local jokes, which have been caught up by newspapers and kept current. An election never passes without the triumphant appearance of the crowing rooster. It marks the survival and nationalization of what was at the start a cross-roads jest.

There was once an ardent politician in Indiana named Chapman, who had local repute for extraordinary ability in imitating the crowing of a cock. He was a follower of Jackson, and celebrated the victories of his party by serenading his neighbors and crowing lustily after election.

When the hard-cider campaign of 1840 ended he was silent, and his political foes turned the laugh against him. They teased him by asking him why he did not crow, and what had become of his rooster.

Some one sent a letter to an Indiana newspaper about Chapman's rooster, and the joke made the rounds of the press. Within twelve months the crowing rooster was on his perch in many a newspaper as the emblem of victory in election-time, and there he has remained.

A similar example is the perpetuation in the word gerrymander of the reputation of a Massachusetts governor for political legerdemain. When the state was grotesquely redistricted for partisan advantage, a political opponent remarked of one district which stretched along the coast from Boston to New Hampshire, that it was shaped like a salamander.

"I call it a gerrymander," said a bystander.

The idea was caught up, a Boston newspaper printed a cut labeled "gerrymander," and the new word was born.

But the most remarkable instance of the longevity of a local American joke is the continued appearance of Uncle Sam, decade after decade, in cartoon, prose and verse.

The original Uncle Sam was an inspector of government stores, detailed for duty at Troy during the war of 1812. His name was Samuel Wilson, and it was his business to receive and examine barrels of pork and cases of provisions designed for military and naval supplies.

The contractors marked the goods intended for government use with the initials "U. S." One day a raw hand, who was assisting the inspector, asked the meaning of the letters "U. S."

"Uncle Sam Wilson," promptly replied the inspector, with a merry twinkle in his eyes.

Everybody laughed. The joke passed from mouth to mouth until it found its way into print, and then it traveled far and wide. Samuel Wilson dropped out of it, but Uncle Sam remained as a personification of the genius of American destiny.

His portrait appeared in due time, tall and lean, with long, ragged beard, whittling-knife, starry, swallow-tailed coat and flag-striped trousers; and so he has remained to this day.

The corresponding conception of John Bull may be traced beyond Doctor Arbuthnot's satire and Dean Swift's cynicism to an equally humble origin in a popular joke.—*Youth's Companion*.

CHINESE WIVES COME HIGH.

Miss Adele Fielde talked interestingly of the condition and legal status of Chinese women in a lecture the other day. Miss Fielde spoke first of the methods employed by her to obtain accurate knowledge regarding any conditions of the people or social customs of China. She said that in order to obtain truthful information it was necessary to use great tact and avoid asking questions of the natives, who are always suspicious of foreigners. By suggesting an exchange of life histories with about forty grandmothers in various villages, and obtaining similar assistance from about fifty other women missionaries, Miss Fielde arrived at a correct knowledge of the long-established customs relating to the women. The teachings of a false religion, Miss Fielde said, were responsible for the fact that many girl babies were killed at birth. Only at times when women become somewhat scarce in proportion

to the male population, thus making the price of a wife high, does this pernicious practice grow less.

"When I first went to China," said Miss Fielde, "twenty years ago, the average price of a wife was \$40. When I left, two years ago, it had risen to \$200, and but few girls were being strangled at birth."

Miss Fielde spoke of the custom of binding the feet, saying that though there were numerous legends about it, it was not known definitely why the custom prevailed. "Though the custom is painful," said she, "it is, I believe, less injurious than the waist binding in this country. There are said to be very few women in America whose internal organs are all in their proper places, because of the habit of tight lacing."

Notwithstanding the oppression of the Chinese women, Miss Fielde declares they possess a great capacity for knowledge. "China has not risen in civilization because she has kept her women down," said Miss Fielde, in conclusion. "A nation cannot rise until its women are elevated."

WEDDED AT TEN YEARS.

Everywhere in the East, and especially in Hindustan and Nepal, marriages are made at a very early age. Parents contract for the wedding of the children when they are yet but little girls and boys, and neither the boy nor the girl has any voice in the matter. They are simply coupled with all the ceremony and extravagant display that the parents on both sides can afford, and then the poor little things go back to their homes, to be nursed and petted and trained until they are old enough to have a home of their own. Thus this little king of Nepal, the eighth royal Goorkha who had come to the throne, was married when he was ten years old to a little princess half his age, chosen for him from one of the royal families of northern India. Nor did it ever occur to the prime minister or the priests, or the astrologers, or the match-makers, that either the bridegroom or the bride had anything whatever to do with the business.

But the wedding was "perfectly splendid." A picturesque concourse of Asiatic guests, with a sprinkling of European strangers, was gathered in the pavilions and rotundas of the palace; and there was profuse distribution of pretty souvenirs and gifts among them. Everyone received something—a nosegay of rare eastern flowers emblematic of happiness and joy, a miniature phial of attar of roses, a little silver flask of delicate perfume, a dainty scarf or handkerchief sprinkled with rose-water, a curious fan, a fantastic toy of ivory, a lacquer box.

And then came the little king—alone, of course, for an oriental bride must not be exposed to the public gaze—borne on a silver litter curtained in orange and purple satin, embroidered with gold, and hung with massive hillion fringe. Seated on a great cushion of cloth of gold, piled with shawls of Cashmere and Canton, he was borne around the rotunda, a luminous vision of flashing jewels, and a musical murmur of tiny bells, from his plumed helmet to his slippers.

And when he had made his royal salaam, or salutation, to the guests and departed, the tamasha began—that is the grand show and the glorious fun; the nautch maidens, or dancing-girls, the musicians and jugglers, the glass-eaters and the swallows, the Nutt gipsies, who are wonderful gymnasts and acrobats, and the Bhootiyau wrestlers from the mountains.—*St. Nicholas*.

HOW THEY CURED HIM.

He was a good horse, sound in wind and limb. His speed and appearance made him valuable to Mr. Andrews, the proprietor of a lively stable, who had bought him at a remarkably low figure. He was about seven years old, and gave promise of long service.

Only one thing subtracted from his value and detracted from his reputation. He refused to be hitched to a post or fastened by a halter. Nothing would keep him in a stall but a barricade of ropes and bars placed behind him. When harnessed to a wagon it was unsafe to leave him unless hitched, for he was fond of a stroll. Yet if tied to a tree or stout post, he would undertake to break the rope or his neck by the most violent pulling, rearing and plunging.

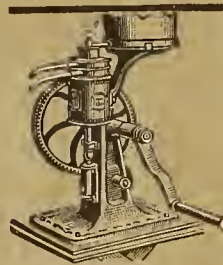
Mr. Andrews resolved that this equine madness should be cured, and the village wisecrack set their wits at work upon the problem.

One morning in July the proprietor of the stable, with the butcher, the blacksmith and the roan horse, appeared on the bank of the canal, where the road was wide, the turf soft and the slope toward the water gentle. The blacksmith was armed with an iron crowbar, and the butcher with his longest, sharpest knife. Mr. Andrews led the horse by a half-inch rope. All the idle men and boys about the main street hurried to the scene.

The har was driven deep into the soil, about fifteen feet from the canal; then the horse was tied fast to the bar by the slender rope, his head toward the village and his tail toward the bank.

The roan stood for a few moments with his ears forward, manifesting a horse's curiosity in what was going on. The butcher flourished his knife before his eyes, and he started back, and felt the tug of the rope on his neck. Then all his equine ire was aroused, and he settled back with a fierce jerk. The rope bore the strain until the butcher suddenly drew the keen edge of his knife across the tightened

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strands, when instantly the roan turned a back somersault, landing on his head in the canal.

He was carefully and tenderly fished out, and to this day can be hitched by a string to a perambulator, wheelbarrow or umbrella.

FOR A SWEET BREATH.

From among a score of paragraphs, on the methods of relief from an offensive breath, an experienced physician selected the following: "Don't expect to have clean teeth or a sweet breath while there is a tinge of white on the tongue. It is an unmistakable evidence of indigestion. Drink sour lemonade, eat ripe fruit and green vegetables for purgatives; exercise freely, use plenty of water externally and internally, and keep up the treatment until the mouth is clean, healthy and red. Various things are suggested to counteract an unpleasant breath resulting from a bad tooth, or garlic-scented dishes. Cinnamon, mint, creams, orris-root, cloves, mastic resin and spruce gum will disguise some odors. Ten drops of tincture of myrrh in a glassful of water will sweeten and refresh the mouth; a teaspoonful of spirits of camphor or peppermint in the same gargle is among the very best antiseptics, and a few drops of myrrh and camphor in the water are recommended in case of cold, throat trouble, or any slight indisposition which may affect the breath."—*Christian Advocate*.

BUSINESS APHORISMS.

Carlyle wasn't a man of business, but he would have made a success of it had he tried it. In his writings one finds these lines of solid business truth:

A laugh is worth a hundred groans in any market.

Have a smile for all, a pleasant word for everybody.

To succeed, work hard, earnestly and incessantly.

All honest men will bear watching. It is the rascals who cannot stand it.

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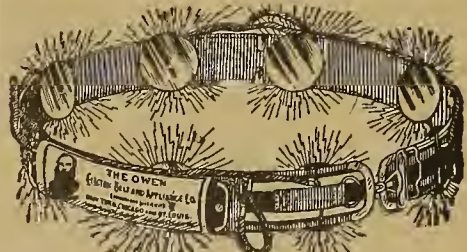


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Our Household.

THE CHAPERON.

I take my chaperon to the play—
She thinks she's taking me,
And the gilded youth who owns the box,
A proud young man is he—
But how would his young heart be hurt
If he could only know
That not for his sweet sake I go,
Nor yet to see the trifling show,
But to see my chaperon flirt.

Her eyes beneath her snowy hair
They sparkle young as mine;
There's scarce a wrinkle in her hand
So delicate and fine.

And when my chaperon is seen,
They come from everywhere—
The dear old boys with silvery hair,
With old-time grace and old-time air,
To greet their old-time queen.

They bow as my young Midas here
Will never learn to bow,
(The dancing-masters do not reach
That gracious reverence now);
With voices quavering just a bit,
They play their old parts through,
They talk of folk who used to woo,
Of hearts that broke in 'fifty-two—
Now none the worse for it.

And as those aged crickets chirp
I watch my chaperon's face,
And see the dear old features take
A new and tender grace;
And in her happy eyes I see
Her youth awakening bright,
With all its hope, desire, delight—
Ah, me! I wish that I were quite
As young—as young as she!

—H. C. Bunner.

HOME TOPICS.

LEMONS.—As hot weather comes on, nothing is more refreshing than lemonade, lemon-ice, lemon jelly, etc. There are lemon-squeezers of various kinds, but I like best the old-fashioned way of extracting the juice. Roll the lemon on the table with your hand until it is soft, then cut off the end, and with a silver spoon take all the pulp out into a dish; remove the seeds from it at once, or they will make it bitter. Never use the peel of a lemon without first washing the lemon and wiping it. After the lemon has been rolled, and before it is cut, the outer, yellow rind may be grated off and used for flavoring. Delicious lemon jelly may be made with the Plymouth Rock gelatin by following the directions, and it makes a very inexpensive dessert. One half a box of gelatin will make jelly enough for a family of six people. It is not necessary to have ice, either, as I frequently made it last summer, in the very hottest weather, by setting the mold in a pail and hanging it in the well five or six hours.

LEMON-ICE.—To one quart of water add one pound of sugar; boil and skim it well. When it is cold, add the juice of three

home is comfortable, and that is enough." But this idea is not true. We are influenced more than we think by our daily surroundings, and are happier, more amiable, stronger to labor or endure when our surroundings are pleasing.

The house need not necessarily be large, with towers, bay-windows and balconies, but it must be neat, and the fences, gates, steps, etc., in repair. If there is no porch, one need cost but little except a few hours' labor. If need be, the posts may be rough and the roof only rough boards. Plant vines around it, and they will soon make it a thing of beauty with their twining greenness. If you cannot afford blinds to the house, you can at least afford trees, which will shield it from the glare of the summer sun. Let the dooryard be covered with soft, green turf, and have all the flowers for which you have time to care. Shrubs and roses do not need much care, and if given the soap-suds from the weekly washing, will thrive and repay you a hundred-fold with their beauty and fragrance.

The family dwelling, the place where our children are born and grow to manhood and womanhood, should be something more than a place in which to eat and sleep. It should lack nothing which is beautifying, refining and ennobling that it is in our power to give. We cannot expect young lives that are unfolded in the midst of constant care, work and worry, and with all their surroundings rude and unkempt, to grow into the fair, sweet, happy lives toward which a better environment would have led them.

Parents have a responsibility that they cannot shirk, and it is something more than to feed, to clothe and to send their children to school. Remember that if childhood does not blossom in the sunshine of beauty and happiness, the fruit of manhood may be dwarfed and sour.

MAIDA McL.

THE "ONLY" LEMONADE.

Almost everyone thinks they know how to make lemonade, but only those who use this rule are right in their belief.

To every quart of water use three lemons and the rind of one, taking care to peel the rind very thin, using nothing but the yellow outside. Cut this into pieces and put with the juice and powdered sugar in a covered vessel (a jug is best), using two ounces of sugar to every quart of water. Boil the water, then pour over the lemon and sugar; cover, let it cool, add ice, and serve. The beaten white of an egg added is very nice.

ELLIOTT.

RIBBON TRIMMINGS.

Among the revivals of old-fashioned things is the making of trimmings of narrow satin ribbons. Our illustrations give a very good idea of their construction. Very pretty effects can be produced from two-faced ribbon. They can be used to edge vests, or for the tops of ruffles, or for trimming baby-caps.

LATE APPLES.

There are some people who are fortunate enough to have apples that will keep until very late in the spring. Once we had apples until June, but these late keepers are very apt to be tough and rather tasteless, yet with a little doctoring they are very useful for sauce or pies. Unless very

can scarcely tell the apple from the pineapple, and by mixing in that way you have a fine sauce that is not very expensive. Tender apples could not be used in this way, as they would cook to pieces and spoil the appearance of the pineapples.

In the spring there is usually sweet pickle-juice left from the pickles. Add a

collar and belt; or if the class colors are used, of any color. This can be developed, also, in grenadine, or the skirt and sleeves of silk and the waist of mousseline de soie. The puffed waist will be found a very acceptable one for slight or undeveloped figures.

In Fig. 2 the dress can be of any light



FIG. 1.—GRADUATING DRESS.

little of that to the apples when you stew them, and let the quarters remain whole. This is good sauce for a change. Or add the juice of a lemon instead.

GYPSY.

TO CLEAN CARPETS.

4 ounces of borax,
8 ounces of sal-soda,
2 ounces of powdered alum,
1 cake of white soap (shaved).

Boil these ingredients in one half gallon of water for half an hour. Add three and one half gallons of hot water, let stand until cool and thick. Rub but a small portion of the carpet at a time with a clean brush, scrape with a thin piece of board, and rub with a cloth wrung out of clean water. This brings out the colors, and makes the carpet look like new.

M. E. SMITH.

SUMMER TOILETS.

In Fig. 1 we present a very suitable toilet for a graduation dress. It is made of white alpaca, which is now a favorite material. The trimming can be of cream satin ribbon for the skirt, and cream velvet for the

color in silk, with jet garnitures. The large elbow sleeves are supplemented by long gloves. The dress is absolutely plain, except for the jet.

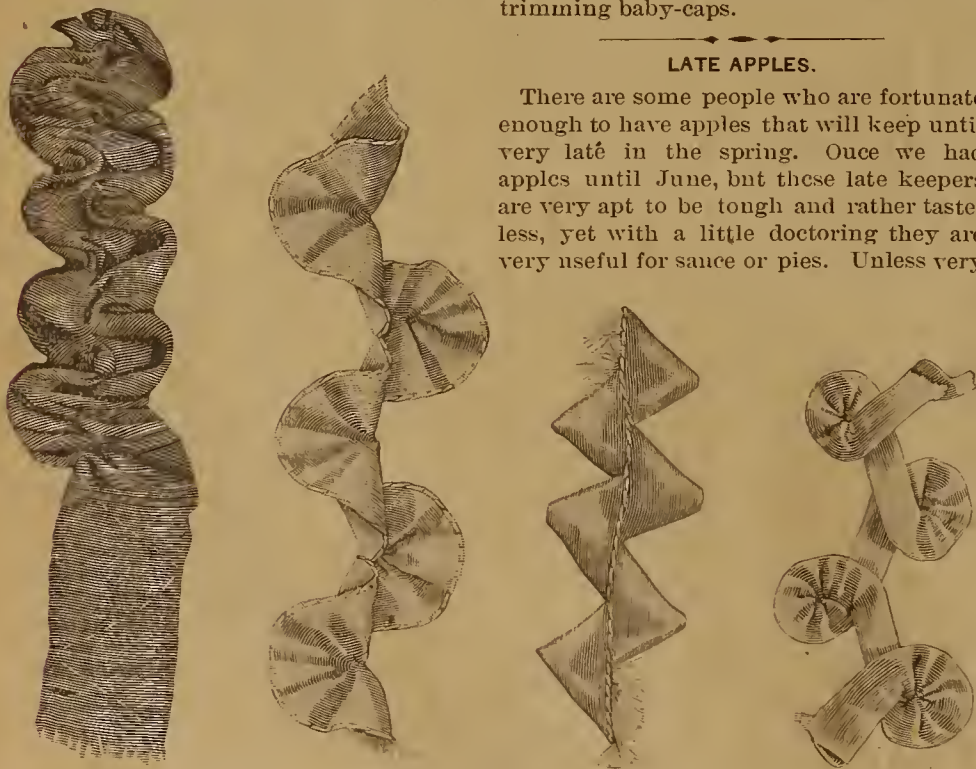
The child's dress in Fig. 3 can be made of any soft, hanging material. Upon a tight-fitting waist lining, the front can be arranged to fall just a little at the waist in four box-plaits, which must be run in the material before it is cut out. A fall of lace from the neck, and a row of velvet with rosettes completes it. The back is the same as the front, or can be made tight, if preferred.

KATHRYN XIE.

TO WASH LACE CURTAINS.

Soak over night in cold water, put on to boil in plenty of cold water, to which has been added a tablespoonful of ammonia and a teaspoonful of turpentine. This is the quantity for a clothes-boiler of water. Boil, wring out, and rinse in two waters. Stiffen with a weak starch and dry on stretchers. They will be white and clean without the wear and tear of rubbing. Fine handkerchiefs are nice washed in this manner.

M. E. SMITH.



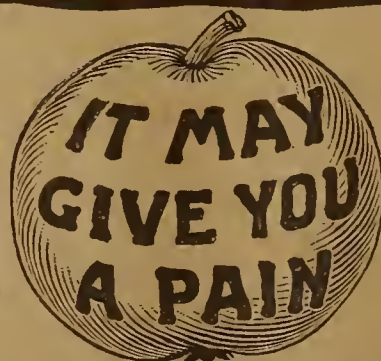
RIBBON TRIMMINGS.

lemons and the sliced rind of two; let it stand an hour, then strain it into the freezer and stir in lightly the well-beaten whites of three eggs. Freeze the same as ice-cream.

MAKE THE HOME BEAUTIFUL.—Many people think they cannot afford to beautify their homes and make them pleasant to the eye as well as comfortable. They are waiting until they have saved more money and can build a fine house. Others say, "What is the use of beauty, anyway? My

tough, a quarter of a teaspoonful of cream of tartar scattered over the apples in an ordinary-sized pie will render them quite tender, if cooked slow. For sauce, about one half teaspoonful to a quantity of apples that will make a quart of apple-sauce will make them cook up like the more tender varieties.

Pineapples are usually the cheapest in May and early June; when you can those, just slice in about one third of apples, and let stand over night. After canning, you



DOSE.—One teaspoonful in a half glass of water or milk (warm if convenient.)

As many good things are likely to. But you are safe in running the risk if you keep a bottle of **Perry Davis' PAIN KILLER**

at hand. It's a never-failing antidote for pains of all sorts.

Sold by all Druggists.

LITTLE HELPS IN MONEY-MAKING.

Many a woman living in some village or country town, or even in the city's edge, longs for some way of adding a little to the family income without leaving the privacy of her own home. If she be a good cook, she can easily work up a good trade for home-made baking, even in a town of no more than five or six hundred inhabitants. There is over one hundred per cent profit to be made by baking bread, even if one buys their flour fifty pounds at a time. If bought in larger quantities, and thus at wholesale rates, there would, of course, be more profit. I do not know personally as to the profits of cake-baking, but am assured there is as much profit in it as in bread-baking.

If one has a cow and some chickens, so that they have milk and eggs without buying them, there is a fine profit to be made baking custard, lemon and cream pies, and in making custard, float and other delicate desserts composed principally of milk and eggs. It pays far better to sell one's milk and eggs in such a form than in the crude state. We know there is a profit in selling such, even though the material must all be bought, else they would not be on the market; so think how much more, then, the profits must be if one produces the principal ingredients.

There is an immense profit made on ice-cream when the material is all purchased, and the woman who owns a cow and some chickens, and has a pleasant lawn or porch that may be made attractive and inviting, and is easily accessible, has quite a little fund within her reach. If she advertise judiciously, and her cake and ice-cream are always of the best, people will soon be attracted, and in a short time a good trade may be worked in serving ice-cream from four until ten o'clock, two or three afternoons a week. If she has room to raise berries, especially strawberries, these may be disposed of in the same way, at three or four times the profit they could be sold for in any other way, and it will also be easier and more pleasant. If a case of home-made candies or small, fancy cakes were displayed, many customers would purchase these also. A few loaves of bread, pies and other things could also be readily sold. Nearly everyone likes brown bread (Graham) and baked beans, yet comparatively few women can make a success of baking these. The woman, then, who can bake these things and be sure of their always being good, can sell as much as she has time and strength to bake. But not every woman would want to follow these lines of money-making, so I suggest others.

Did you ever know a woman who liked



FIG. 3.—CHILD'S DRESS.

to make a sunbonnet? Women who love to sew, and who never think of buying a ready-made garment, dread to begin on a sunbonnet, and there isn't one woman in a hundred, who could possibly get the money, who wouldn't buy a sunbonnet ready made rather than make it herself.

Any merchant will tell you it is easy to sell the things people want, so sunbonnets are always a good sale. I know one church society that made and sold several hundred one spring, in a town of only about three thousand people. One should buy a good quality of gingham by the bolt, thus getting it a little cheaper. Then by exercising care and ingenuity, and cutting to advantage, there will be but little waste of material; and when one gets thoroughly used to making sunbonnets they will not seem such a formidable task.

Kitchen aprons, if of good material, long and full and neatly made, always sell well. Children's aprons, of all styles and materials, always command a ready sale also, if not too expensive. Few dressmakers like to bother with making children's clothing, so that one woman in almost every community could get all of that class of sewing that she had the time and strength to do. In this, as in everything else, the best workers will command the best pay. If one has taste and originality, and can make the dresses to suit the especial style of each little wearer, the mothers will soon learn to appreciate it, and many busy women will be glad to get the material and leave it with such a seamstress, trusting to her taste and honesty to evolve a pretty garment, and pay for it accordingly, glad to be spared the care and worry of selecting style, and so forth, if she can feel confident that the result will be satisfactory.

In every family there are outgrown garments that might do duty a second time, almost as well as the first, if they were fresh-looking. Almost every woman seems to think that it is a hard, laborious and disagreeable task to color these things, so that they may again be used, and so let it go, and thus lose much in the way of economy. Any one who has done coloring knows that it is not such a difficult process; and if good dyes are carefully used, the results are uniformly satisfactory, so that women who are willing to clean, rip apart, color and press any old garments brought to her, would find a very lucrative business easily followed at home. If she add to this the process of dry-cleaning, also of cleaning or coloring kid gloves and such articles, she will find it a source of not a little revenue that will not interfere with household duties nor social pleasures.

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERTS.

TO KEEP THE HAIR IN CURL.

Mix twelve grains of carbonate of potash with a pint of warm, soapy water. Froth the water by beating it with the hands, dip a brush in it and dampen the hair well, then curl with ordinary curlers.

THE BEST WAY TO KEEP STRAW-BERRIES.

Some one says, "God may have made a better fruit than strawberries, but he never did," and so think all of us. Nothing tastes better, either, in winter, than well-kept ones. I have found the following recipe the best I ever tried:

Pick, and wash your berries by draining water over them in a colander. Handle them as little as possible. Make a syrup of two pounds of sugar to one quart of water. Allow this to come to a boil; skim anything rising to the surface. Use a very broad pan to cook them in, so as to give them plenty of stove surface. When the syrup is ready, put in the berries, about two quarts at a time. As they cook, move the pan about, but do not stir with a spoon. Use a wooden one if you wish to move

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Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

them a little to keep from boiling over, but do not stir. When they have been in the syrup for about fifteen minutes, remove the berries carefully with a perforated skimmer. Put them into tumblers or big-mouthed, small jars. As they are rich, you will not need them in large quantities,



FIG. 2.—SILK DRESS WITH JET GARNITURES.

so use small vessels for them. Fill the glasses about two thirds full of berries, and allow the syrup to keep on cooking, then fill up with the syrup. Allow them to stand till next morning, then seal as you would jelly. Keep in a warm, dry place.

A SEASONABLE RELISH.

Horse-radish, though a homely herb, is credited by trustworthy pharmacopœias with considerable remedial powers against vague humors of the blood. At this season it is certainly a very acceptable relish with meat, if perfectly fresh and properly grated. For those fond of the herb, a sauce of it is delicious prepared in the following manner:

Begin by making a cream of two even tablespoonfuls of flour and two liberal tablespoonfuls of butter; stir and melt in a saucepan; add a pint and a half of milk, stir until it boils, season with salt, and let simmer on the back of the stove for ten minutes. When it is ready, add two tablespoonfuls of horse-radish, drained from vinegar in which it has lain for some time, and a small spoonful of cayenne. Let it cook slowly for several minutes, and serve with broiled steak or mutton chops. If too thick, thin with hot cream. M. E. S.

CHERRY SHRUB.

Take ten pounds of sour or morello cherries, put them in a stone crock and set it in a vessel of boiling water, putting no water with the fruit. Cook steadily until the juice flows freely. Squeeze through a thick bag. Measure the liquid, and to each quart of the liquid allow two pounds of sugar and a gill of brandy. Stir until the sugar is dissolved and strain once more. When clear, bottle and seal.—Harper's Bazar.

A BIG DROP IN SUGAR.

Sears, Roebuck & Co., better known as the Cheapest Supply House on Earth, at 171-173 and 175 W. Adams St., Chicago, Ill., are selling 40 lbs. of the very best granulated sugar for \$1, and other groceries at proportionately low prices; they ship their goods to anyone anywhere; they will supply you if anywhere within one thousand miles of Chicago, selling granulated sugar 40 lbs. for \$1, and everything accordingly. Send no money, but cut this notice out and send to Sears, Roebuck & Co., Chicago, for full particulars.

KITCHEN KINKS.

I wouldn't use steel knives and forks, if I were you, dear little woman, you who are still slaving yourself to death, scouring them after every meal. I wouldn't do it at all, when silver ones can be purchased so cheaply, and last so long, too. I wouldn't do it, I say. But if you will, don't you want to know a nice, easy plan for shaving brick-dust down? If you have an old horse-radish-grater, that can't be used any more for that purpose, just try grating brick-dust with it and see how nicely it works. If you haven't an old grater, you can easily make one by perforating the lid of a baking-powder box, and fitting it upon the box.

For a perfectly delicious dish, mix dough exactly as you would for biscuits, roll out and cut into strips and blocks. Place in a baking-dish and cover with rich chicken or beef broth. Bake until thoroughly done, basting the pie every few minutes with the broth. Serve with gravy or broth—and, oh, my!

The dish-rag question. Of course, you have run out of dish-rags. Everyone has, and you don't know what you will use next. Well, I'll tell you. Just buy a nice medium-sized sponge. You can get lovely ones for a few cents, and after using a sponge for a few weeks, you wouldn't think of using anything else. After washing the dishes, scald the sponge carefully and expose to the air and sun. You ought to do that with an ordinary dish-rag, anyway, to keep it sweet and clean. For tea-towels, the nicest thing that you can get is crash. Towels that are partly worn make the most desirable wiping-cloths. They are so soft and polish the china so beautifully.

MARGARET M. MOORE.

Pears'

Half the fun
of getting
up in the
morning is
in good soap.

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See the special six months' trial subscription offers on pages 18 and 19.

Our Household.

I MADE A SHIRT.

More years ago than I shall name
I sought to win a good wife's fame;
I knew not how, but all the same
I made a shirt.

I cut, I stitched, with many a tear;
Hollowed it out, both front and rear;
I carved the armholes wide, for fear
They wouldn't fit.

John's neck I measured, to be true;
The band must fit—that much I knew,
I'd heard so oft. All else I drew
And puckered in.

At last 'twas done. A work of art,
Complete, I hoped, in every part.
"Come, John," I called with quaking heart,
"Try on your shirt."

I must confess it bulged somewhat
In places where I thought 't should not,
But John, the brute, yelled out, "Great Scott!
Is this a tent?"

And such behavior, language, well!
He uttered things I'll never tell—
I may forget them when I dwell
In higher spheres.

Oh, woman of the present day,
To you's inscribed this little lay:
You little know the man you pay
Your homage to.

If his "true inwardness" you'd know,
Have him your idols overthrow,
And sentiment to four winds blow,
Make him a shirt!

—Amy Hamilton, in *New York World*.

A FORGET-ME-NOT SOUVENIR.

A CHARMING little souvenir for the school-girls who are about to leave school for their vacation (some to be separated for years, perhaps) is a forget-me-not souvenir-cloth, where they can ask each little friend to write her name, just as their mothers used to write theirs in a memory album years ago. You make this cloth of linen, about ten inches square, with a wide hem, and hemstitched above. Then have them write their names in a clear, distinct hand, with ink or pencil mark, and outline the name in pretty wash silks. It must be done very neatly; but a little girl of seven or eight years can do it nicely. What adds very much to the souvenir-cloth is to work forget-me-nots here and there scattered about among the names. They seem so appropriate. But if you think this is too difficult for a beginner, just leave that out and work the names. Place them gracefully over the cloth.

You can launder it to look as if it had never been handled, by washing it quickly in a bowl with a lather of white soap, which

the illustration. As I say, you can leave out the forget-me-nots and just work the names plainly. Get wash silks.

SARA H. HENTON.

CROCHETED QUILT.

The illustration represents a section of a quilt crocheted in India twist. Use light ecru, and a medium-sized needle. The directions will show that it is all in one piece, fourteen wheels each way, although it might be done in sections for convenience sake.

Make a ch of 10 st, and join in a ring.

First row—Ch 3, d c twenty-four times into ring. Join to top of third chain.

Second row—Ch 5, d c into same st; * ch 1, d c into second st; ch 1, d c into same st; repeat from * until you have twelve V-shaped holes.

Third row—Ch 2, * d c into first V-shaped hole; ch 4, s c into top of d c below first st of 4 ch; ch 4, s c into same place; ch 4, s c into same place; ch 2, s c underch between V-shaped holes; repeat from * all around.

Fourth row—Ch 7, s c into top of each leaf all around the wheel.

Fifth row—Ch 3, d c into each st of ch all around.

Sixth row—Ch 5, d c into same st; ch 3, d c into fourth st; * ch 2, d c into same st; ch 3, d c into fourth; repeat from * until you have 24 V-shaped holes.

Seventh row—Ch 2, d c into first V-shaped hole, ch 4.

This row is same as third row, and finishes the wheel. Each wheel is joined to the others by the three little leaves on last row while making three little leaves, and are joined so as to have twelve little leaves in between on each large wheel to join the small wheel.

The small wheels are made same as first, second and third rows of big wheel, and to big wheel in the leaf left for it, when making the leaves on the small one.

Almost thirty-two balls of thread are required for this quilt, costing \$2.50

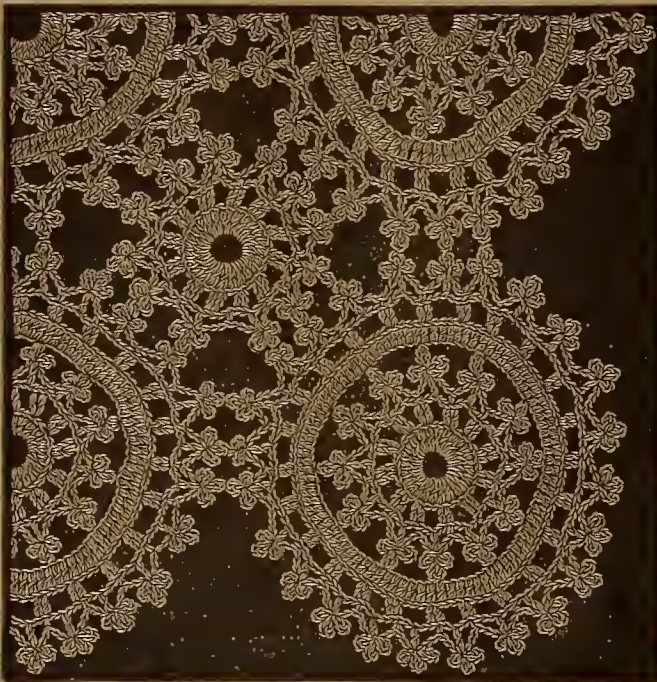
M. E. S.

SEWING—A MEANS OF GRACE.

Among modern womanhood perhaps there is no word more frequently used than culture. Every town has its literary club. The members meet once a week, or

tion concerning the evolution of the past into the present; precise facts concerning the material of the world; some ability to produce a slight addition to what has been accomplished. But is this culture? At last we hear a sentence, finer and clearer than the gentle chatter. This fine sentence is brief. It says, "The flower of culture is character."

"Ah!" we exclaim, "all this running to and fro has the aim of forming character." We feel the satisfaction which comes from resting on a definite thought. Yes, this social attrition is good to cultivate those



CROCHETED QUILT.

traits which form the best personality. Let us take this word character, pass it through the prison of analysis, and see what it combines. Like light, it has seven ingredients; namely, patience, generosity, humility, courtesy, unselfishness, good temper, sincerity. A woman who has those traits has a fine character. While these can be nourished in a literary club, their growth is not confined there. The home and the homeliest domestic duties offer exercise for each of these fine characteristics. Take sewing.

You dear women who sew may congratulate yourselves, because in that occupation you are charmingly feminine, and may most sweetly maintain and increase your patience. Who but a woman who has made a garment knows all the tedious processes necessary to bring it to beautiful completion? The cutting out, laying on the pattern so as to economize goods, the basting, the sewing of the long seams, the fitting, the pressing, the delicate finishings, the buttonholes, the final touches. If a seamstress stopped to think of all the stitches she must take, even a stout heart might quail; but she begins bravely, and stitch by stitch the work is accomplished. Let Napoleon brag of his highway over the Alps, and the Hollanders receive praise for keeping out the ocean with their dykes. The seamstress is akin to them in her patient stitching.

Then how generous is that good woman who does her family sewing! Not one twentieth is for herself. A vain girl does not deserve great praise for making her own dresses, she is not on the path to that highest culture which means character. But when she makes father a dressing-gown, mother's and sisters' dresses; when she makes shirt-waists for the small boys and muslin garments for the entire family, then her industry takes on a noble disinterestedness. It does not take a large opportunity to practice the virtue of generosity. One need only stay near the sewing-machine.

Humility; "He that would be greatest among you, let him be servant of all." It seems occasionally that in the literary club, in these larger activities which women are seeking, they are in danger of losing this pearl of all charms, this mild gem of character, humility. Who can admire the vain, self-assertive woman? If it were only for beauty's sake and not with any consideration of the higher life, every woman ought to learn the grace of humility. Where can she more thoroughly learn it than when she is sewing? "Only quietly working with very little instruments on fragile materials; making plain objects of use which will quickly wear out." And while these lowly thoughts pass through the worker's mind, she unconsciously grows more beautiful and lovely. She feels that "she is servant," but others know how "greatest of all" she is in her home.

If a woman sews for the public, if she is a professional dressmaker, she has peerless opportunities for the culture of courtesy. Indeed, all the graces of character will so crowd and claim her attention that she cannot practice them one by one. She must be patient, humble and polite, generous and self-forgetting all at once. She will have to change a dress which she has made as well as possible. She will have to endure the caprice and forgetfulness of her patrons. She must not retort

the impatient complaint. She deserves to be called "greater than he that taketh a city," for she must learn to "rule her own spirit."

Closely allied to courtesy is good temper. "Mother, will you help me mend some corn-sacks?" asked a young man where I once visited in the country. A few minutes afterward the son and mother were sitting on the floor patching the bags. The mother looked up with an heroic smile as she said, "I like this job about as well as mending an old pair of pants."

All through her work the seamstress has a chance to cultivate sincerity. Honest stitches, stout thread, deep seams, the fast-holding stitches which fasten the whole—these things tell of character and mark the thorough woman. "How much better is a bridge than a book!" exclaimed Thomas Carlyle, whose father was an honest bridge-builder. How much better is good sewing than too much talking.

It is not that we love the literary club less, but that we esteem more the honest thread and needle. Culture may be obtained wherever men or women find work to do, for the flower of culture is character, and character is patience, generosity, courtesy, good temper and thoroughness.

K. K.

VALUED RECIPES.

CRUST FOR PIES.—

1 teacupful of sifted flour,
1 pinch of salt,
1 tablespoonful of lard.
Mix with cold water. This will make upper and lower crust for two pies.

CORN-BATTER CAKES.—

1 large coffee-cupful of sour milk,
1 pinch of soda and salt,
1 egg.
Mix well with meal to thicken, and bake on a hot griddle. These are delicious.

TO PREPARE SALT RISING FOR BREAD.—One pint of warm, fresh milk, boiled, stir into this meal enough to make a stiff batter, and set in a warm place over night. In the morning, stir in flour sufficient to make batter as for cakes, and set in a warm place. When risen, sift a quart of flour, into which put a pinch of salt and a tablespoonful of lard, then pour in your yeast and mix with warm water; knead until the dough is cold. Make out into three loaves and put into a well-greased pan. When well risen, bake in a hot oven.

MRS. C. C. COX.

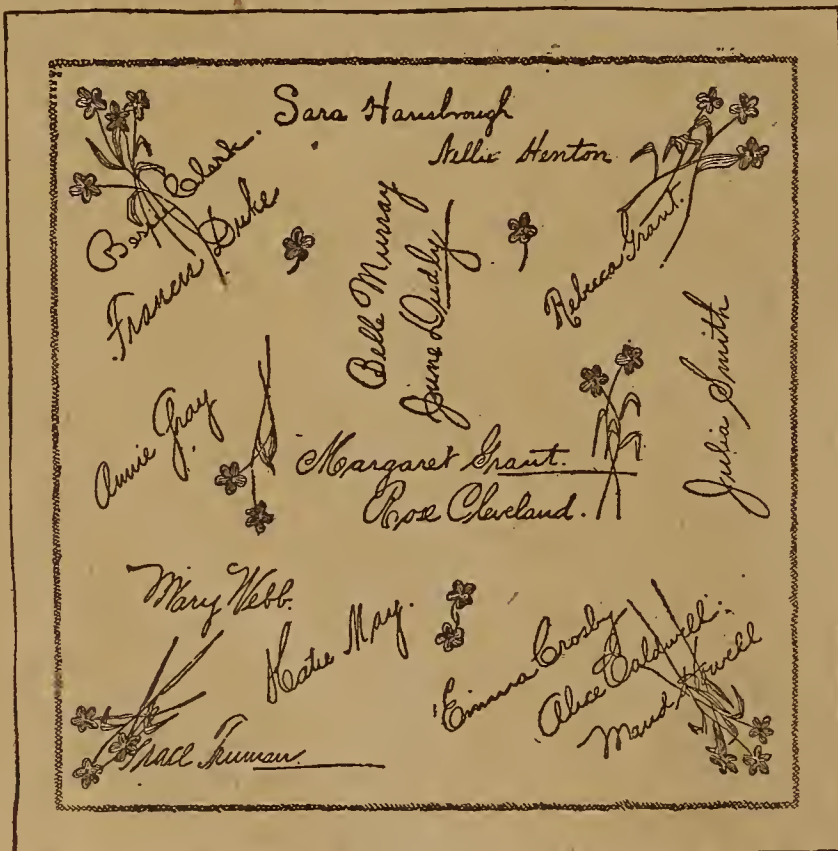
GOT A BABY BOY NOW.

HAPPINESS IN A SOUTHERN MAN'S HOME—TELLS ABOUT THE RED FLAG OF DANGER AT THE RAILROAD CROSSING—WARNING TO AMERICA'S MEN.

"For twenty-six years I have used tobacco in great quantities, and of late years took to cigarette-smoking," writes Mr. W. E. Simpson, of Lecompte, La. "I want to go on record that tobacco has robbed me of many years of life and a great deal of happiness. I realize it now as I compare my feelings and my condition with that of a year ago, when I was a tobacco-saturated cigarette fiend. Many and many a time did I try to quit smoking myself into eternity, but I could not put through a day without suffering extreme nervous torture, which would increase hour by hour, till finally, to save myself, as it seemed, from almost flying to pieces, I had to light the little, white pipe-stick and swallow the smoke. One day I read in my paper, 'Don't Tobacco Spit and Smoke Your Life Away'—just what I was doing; it came to me like the warning of the man who waves the red flag of danger at the railroad crossing, and said that No-To-Bac was an absolutely guaranteed relief from tobacco slavery. I did not believe it, but like a drowning man grasping at a straw, I commenced taking No-To-Bac. The effects were magical, it destroyed the nerve craving and desire for cigarettes. Two boxes, would you believe it, made me well and strong. I have gained mentally, physically, in vigor and manhood, and with the brain free from the nicotine and a breath no longer befouled with tobacco smoke I am so happy to-day to write No-To-Bac did it all a year ago, so the cure is time-tested and tried, not only in my own case, but several of my friends who have also been cured.

"We have a baby boy now. My wife and I feel that all this happiness started from the time when I first used No-To-Bac, and in evidence of our appreciation and in order that the memory of the happiness may be perpetuated in a living form, we want to name our baby boy after the man who wrote the line 'Don't Tobacco Spit and Smoke Your Life Away'."

"No-To-Bac is popular here and all our druggists sell it. Hardly a day passes but somebody asks me about No-To-Bac, so I don't want you to hesitate to use these lines in any way that you think will make known to suffering humanity the happiness that there is in No-To-Bac for the many men with nicotine-brained and weakened resolutions. If they will only make up their mind to save the waste of vital power—to say nothing of the money—now going up in smoke and out in tobacco spit."



A FORGET-ME-NOT SOUVENIR.

will keep the wash silks from fading; then iron while damp, on the wrong side. This will be something to look at and treasure up when you are a grown woman. You may have it to show to your own daughter some day. I remember very well one such piece that my dear mother used to take out of a treasure-box where she kept valuables, and show me where this schoolmate had worked her name, then tell me the history of her girlhood. What happy, happy days they used to have. My little nieces have made lovely pieces, and outlined them all themselves. Each one of their schoolmates had written their names in the manner of

at least fortnightly, and read long papers on subjects as various as art, science and history can supply. Did I say that every town has its club? The statement is inadequate. It must be a small village which speaks of "a club." "Clubs" is the word; an animated and numerous plurality. A gentleman who has the Bible at the tip of his tongue remarked recently that he thought in these days, among women, the prophecy of Daniel is fulfilled where he said, "Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

But after all this intellectual activity, what remains? Accumulated informa-

40 Cent Patterns for 10 Cents.

Any **FOUR** Patterns, and Farm and Fireside one year, 50 cents.

These patterns retail in fashion bazaars and stores for twenty-five to forty cents each, but in order to increase the demand for our paper among strangers, and to make it more valuable than ever to our old friends, we offer them to the lady readers of our paper for the remarkably low price of only **10 Cents Each**. Postage one cent extra.

The patterns are all of the very latest New York styles, and are unequalled for style, accuracy of fit, simplicity and economy. For twenty-five years these patterns have been used the country over. Full descriptions and directions—as the number of yards of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment

to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a *separate* pattern for every single piece of the dress. Your order will be filled the same day it is received.

You can order any of the patterns offered in the back numbers of this paper.

For ladies, give **BUST** measure in inches. For **SKIRT** pattern, give **WAIST** measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give **BREAST** measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

To get **BUST** and **BREAST** measure, put the tape measure **ALL** of the way around the body, over the dress close under the arms.

Price of each pattern, 10 cents.

Postage one cent extra on *EACH* pattern, except on Tea and House Gowns, 2 cents extra.

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No. 6349.—LADIES' SHIRT-WAIST. 11 cents.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.
No. 6347.—SAME PATTERN—MISSSES' SIZE. 11c.
Sizes, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches breast measure.



No. 6356.—LADIES' YOKE WAIST. 11 cents.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.
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Sizes, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches breast measure.



No. 6375.—GIRL'S FROCK. 11 cents.
Sizes, 20, 22, 24 and 26 inches breast measure.



No. 6441.—MISSSES' SKIRT. 11 cents.
Sizes, 13, 14 and 16 years.

Received the shirt-waist pattern, for which accept my thanks. Am very much pleased with it.
MRS. M. J. MERRILL,
Mainstream, Me.



No. 6374.—CHILD'S FROCK. 11 cents.
Sizes, 18, 20 and 22 inches breast measure.



No. 6311.—GIRL'S FROCK. 11 cents.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26 and 28 inches breast measure.



No. 6435.—LADIES' WAIST. 11 cents.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.
No. 6407.—LADIES' SKIRT. 11 cents.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure.



No. 6424.—LADIES' SLEEVES. All three for 11c.
Sizes, 32, 36 and 40 inches bust measure.

For want of space we cannot illustrate all of our cut paper patterns, therefore we will issue, about June 1st, a large pattern catalogue, illustrating many patterns for Women, Men, Misses, Boys, Girls and Babies. This catalogue will be mailed Free to any address.



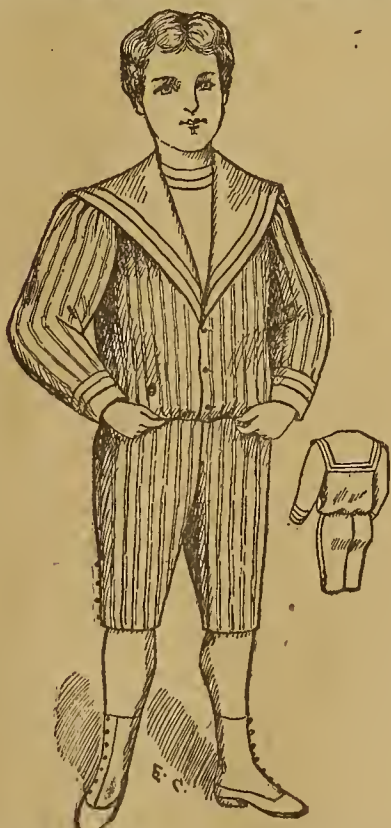
No. 6448.—LADIES' WAIST. 11 cents.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.
No. 6407.—LADIES' SKIRT. 11 cents.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure.



No. 6426.—LADIES' WAIST. 11 cents.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.
No. 6407.—LADIES' SKIRT. 11 cents.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure.



No. 6449.—LADIES' WAIST. 11 cents.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.
No. 6323.—LADIES' SKIRT. 11 cents.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure.



No. 6369.—BOYS' FACILITY SUIT. 11 cents.
Sizes, 20, 22, 24 and 26 inches breast measure.



No. 6437.—LADIES' EIGHT-GORED SKIRT. 11 cts.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure.



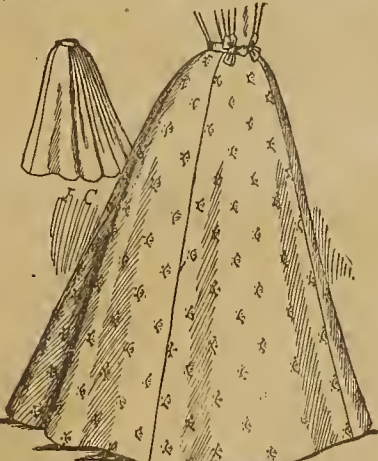
No. 6399.—LADIES' BLOUSE WAIST. 11 cents.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.



No. 6436.—LADIES' WAIST. 11 cents.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.
No. 6323.—LADIES' SKIRT. 11 cents.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure.



No. 6427.—LADIES' BASQUE. 11 cents.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure.
No. 6423.—LADIES' SKIRT. 11 cents.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure.



No. 6442.—LADIES' SKIRT. 11 cents.
Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist measure.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

A REASON FOR IT.

The world is always sunny
To the chap that has the money;
But you've got to hunt the honey,
Like the bees!
If they idled every hour,
In the shine, or in the shower,
Would they ever find a flower,
In the breeze?

Though the stormy wind is blowin',
There is reapin', there is sowin',
An' milk an' honey flowin'

Left and right!
But you've got to brave the weather;
You must lengthen out your tether
If you want to win the feather,
In the fight.

—Atlanta Constitution.

DO SOMETHING.

YOU are not here to vegetate or to dream; you were born to act. Every man coming into the world is furnished with a commission of service. That you are here is evidence that a work awaits you, for the great Master sends no one into the field save to find his task and to fall into line with the reapers. Service is the key to a human life; all else is subsidiary, mere by-play. So you perform the allotted task, you shall, at set of sun, hear the "well done" and receive the accustomed "penny." Blessed are those servants who, when the Master of the harvest calls, shall be found, sickle in hand, among the stalks of golden grain!

But, sad to tell, not all perform the tasks assigned them in the divine order; and what is more strange, it is not always the bad who refuse to recognize the divine command and that fail to do their work. It is often the well-meaning men who recognize the obligation and intend to discharge the duty. Simply they do not do it. They dream of doing without ever taking the task in hand. The reasons for not doing are various; often plain, but sometimes obscure, to the individual himself, and possibly such as he would not venture to put in words. Some never get ready. They imitate the bobolink, which persistently swings on his "brier or weed," ever ready to mount, making many attempts, while remaining an inveterate procrastinator. The intentions of such people are good, but they are never effectuated in action. Others fail to perceive just what duty is. They may never see it until they begin to act; the first step will make clear the second. They may never have an outline of duty ten miles ahead, and because not thus favored they refuse to do anything. There are those who do not like the tasks assigned them. If they were called to something else, if the task of some other had been assigned to them, they would be valiant soldiers. Still others fail because they do not like the regiment into which they were mustered. That you are there is a reason why you should fight there. Providence often selects our associates in service, and such selections are usually the best. To get out of these relations is too often to get out of service. But be sure to do something, and begin to-day. Delay means failure.—*Zion's Herald.*

LIVING AT OUR BEST.

Do not try to do a great thing; you may waste all your life waiting for an opportunity which may never come. But since little things are always claiming your attention, do them as they come, from a great motive, for the glory of God, to win his smile of approval, and to do good to men. It is harder to plod on in obscurity acting thus, than to stand on the high places of the field, within the view of all, and to do deeds of valor at which rival armies stand still to gaze. But no such act goes without the swift recognition and the ultimate recompense of Christ.

To fulfil faithfully the duties of your station; to use to the uttermost the gifts of your ministry; to bear chafing annoyances and trivial irritation as martyrs bore the pillory and the stake; to find the one noble trait in people who try to molest you; to put the kindest construction on unkind acts and words; to love with the love of God even the unthankful and evil; to be content to be a fountain in the midst of a wild valley of stones, nourishing a few lichens and wild flowers, or now and again a thirsty sheep; and to do this always, and not for the praise of man, but for the sake of God—this makes a great life.—*F. B. Meyer.*

TAKE YOUR OWN MEASURE.

There are people—you have seen them, and I have seen them—who are never happier than when they see a fair opportunity of taking somebody's measure. It is wonderful how many opportunities they find—their neighbor, their pastor, their lawyer, and even "their dearest friend." They are never at a loss for a place, in the church, on the street, at home, anywhere, in fact, where a scrap of humanity is to be seen. But the most wonderful thing about these people is that they never take their own measure. Carelessly they drift on through life, a looker-on here, a hanger-on there, indifferent apparently to the responsibility which, in a great or small measure, God has placed before every soul, a responsibility which each one is called upon to lift, shoulder and carry. You may find them in every walk, in every calling of life, men who can, without a quibble, point the finger of patronizing pity at their brother; men who take it lightly upon themselves to analyze the worth of, and then judge one of God's sacredly veiled images. Horrible indeed must be the responsibility of the man who thus dares to don the mantle of Omnipotence. Our judgeship apprenticeship must begin and end with ourselves; our Master holds the key; ours is the facsimile, which, if properly inserted, will enable us justly and accurately to take our own measure.

LOOK UP.

The celebrated traveler, Baron Humboldt, wrote a thrilling account of the first earthquake he ever witnessed. The earthquake was at Cumana, South America. The first shock came after a strange stillness, and produced a terrible shock in the baron's mind, upsetting all his previous notions as to the permanency of the earth. He could no longer trust the ground that had seemed so firm and solid under his feet. The houses could not shelter him, for they were tumbling to the ground. He turned to the trees, but they were being thrown down. He looked toward the sea, and its waters had so receded that ships were rolling on the sand. He thought of fleeing to the mountains, and looked that way, when lo! the mountains were reeling to and fro like a drunken man. He turned his eyes toward the heavens above him, and of all he could see they alone seemed calm, firm, immovable. Let Christians read and learn a lesson. Look up! "There's nothing firm but heaven."—*St. Louis Advocate.*

THE PROMISES.

The Word of God is food to the spiritual part of our natures; but the promises seem like the meat that strengthens. Many Christians lose much of the enjoyment of religion because they do not think often enough of the promises, and rely on them in every hour of temptation, danger or sorrow. There are promises for every condition and circumstance of a Christian's career, and if we only know of them, understand and believe them, we must always be happy, knowing God will not fail to keep his word. The Bible, that most wonderful production, contains interesting and valuable history, profound philosophy, and poetry grand in conception and inimitable in expression; but a Christian sifts the promises from each and every part, and feasts on them with eager, rapturous joy.

WHY DON'T HE?

A boy went once to camp-meeting. While his mother was putting him to bed one night, he heard a great noise in the tent.

"What is that, mother?"

"It is a man praying, my son, and I should judge by the way he prays that he wanted to be wholly the Lord's."

"Why don't he, then?"

Sure enough! We hear people say they want to be wholly the Lord's. Well, why not? They can if they will. People do what they want to do. There is no one who is determined at all hazards to be wholly for God who can miss the way. Settle it at all hazards that you will go in, and the Holy Spirit will lead you in.—*Christian Witness.*

Every Man Should Read This.

If any young, old, or middle-aged man, suffering from nervous debility, lack of vigor, or weakness from errors or excesses, will inclose stamp to me, I will send him the prescription of a genuine, certain cure, free of cost, no humbug, no deception. It is cheap, simple and perfectly safe and harmless. I will send you the correct prescription and you can buy the remedy of me or prepare it yourself, just as you choose. The prescription I send free, just as I agree to do. Address, E. H. HUNGERFORD, Box A, 232, Albion, Mich.

A Model Farm House

is kept in model order by a model farmer's wife—she cleans the dairy and kitchen utensils; cleans the floors and windows—cleans everything cleanable with

GOLD DUST Washing Powder.

This famous preparation quickly removes dirt of a greasy nature or any nature. Every farmer's wife as well as every other wife should have a supply of GOLD DUST. Sold everywhere in large packages. Price 25c.

GOLD DUST WASHING POWDER has an additional value to the farmer for destroying insects. Send us your name and address and we will mail you an important booklet containing recipes for making kerosene emulsions, for spraying crops and trees and live stock.

THE N. K. FAIRBANK COMPANY,
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Stop that Cough!

It may lead to serious consequences. Cough remedies will not do it, because it means more than a simple cold. Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites will do it, and at the same time will build up and fortify the system against further attacks.

We are putting up a 50-cent size for just these local difficulties. For ordinary Coughs and Colds that quantity will doubtless cure. If it is deep-seated it may require more.

Don't be persuaded to accept a substitute!

Scott & Bowne, N. Y. All Druggists. 50c. and \$1.

FITSCURED

(From U. S. Journal of Medicine.)

Prof. W. H. Peeke, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their P.O. and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address, Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York.

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If you have any rare American or foreign coins or paper money issued before 1878, keep them and send two stamps to Numismatic Bank, Boston, Mass., for Circular No. 20. A fortune for somebody. Agents wanted. Adv. Dept. N.

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Originators of Pepsin Chewing Gum.

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WINDSORS run faster, are built stronger, look handsomer, are better than any other make, and cost \$25 to \$50 less. Send stamp for catalogue. SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS TO AGENTS NOW.
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Sets any name in one minute; prints 500 cards an hour. YOU can make money with it. A font of pretty type, also Indelible Ink, Type Holder, Pads and Tweakers. Rest Lines Marker; worth \$1.00. Sample mailed FREE for 10c. stamps for postage on outfit and large catalogue of 1000 Baysan.
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to wash as clean as can be done on the 75,000 in use, washboard and with much more ease. This applies to Terrill's Perfect Washing Machine which will be sent on trial at wholesale price; if not satisfactory money refunded. Agents Wanted. For exclusive territory, terms and prices write PORTLAND MFG. CO., Box 4, Portland, Me.

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\$60 Kenwood Machine for \$23.00
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Standard Singer \$8.00, \$11.00, \$15.00, and 27 other styles. All attachments FREE. We pay freight ship anywhere on 30 days free trial, in any home without asking one cent in advance. Buy from factory. Save agents large profits. Over 100,000 in use. Catalogue and testimonials Free. Write at once. Address (in full), CASH BUYERS' UNION, 158-164 West Van Buren St., B 7, Chicago, Ill.

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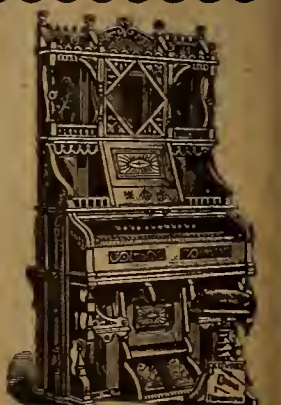
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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

To Bleach Beeswax.—L. E. B., Lebanon, Conn. Melt, and run the wax into thin sheets. Expose the sheets to the light and sun. When whitened, melt, and mold into any form desired.

Cabbage-worm.—J. B. F., Anthony, Kan. REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Try hot washing-suds, dashing a half pint or more into the heart of each plant. Dusting with tobacco dust will also kill them, and so will spraying with kerosene emulsion.

Bugs on Watermelons.—C. S. J., Mountville, Ohio.

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Covering the plants with boxes or screen is one way of keeping the bugs off. I use tobacco dust and bone-meal, covering the ground around the plants in each hill an inch or two deep. This I have stated a great many times.

Pocket-gophers, to Destroy.—N. S. L., Decorah, Iowa. Open a fresh runway. On a bunch of cotton or rags pour a couple of ounces of bisulphid of carbon. Push the saturated material well down into the hole, and tightly close the opening with earth. The heavy vapor from this volatile liquid will flow down and along the tunnels and quickly suffocate the gopher when it reaches him. The vapor of bisulphid of carbon is highly inflammable and explosive. Do not expose it to fire.

Mulching Potatoes.—E. J. D., Grove City, Ohio, would like to know how deep I put straw over potatoes.

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—I suppose this inquiry refers to an earlier communication of mine, in which I told of mulching valuable potatoes during the warm and dry season. Sometimes I use clear straw, sometimes strawy manure, just what I happen to have on hand. I put this stuff on heavy enough to cover every inch of ground several inches deep, the more the better, so that the plants appear as if growing out of the straw. Of course, it takes a lot of stuff to mulch a patch, but for any potatoes which you expect will bring you a dollar or more per bushel, the practice will pay well. It usually gives a large increase of crop.

Gardening for a Living.—C. B., Boston, Mass., writes: "Would you advise a young man who does not know much about farming, but who has a chance to get a farm within twenty miles of Boston, to take it? Do you think I could make it pay? I have grown some celery, beans, peas, cabbage and other things at home, and did not seem to have any trouble to make them grow well."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Would I advise any one to engage in keeping a store, or a saloon, or to run a machine-shop? Any business will pay the right man in the right place. It would be risky for me to offer advice. If you are the right man, and in the right place—of which you can judge better than I, for I know nothing about it—it would be safe to engage in the enterprise mentioned. But it seems to me that you have not had the necessary practice and experience in growing garden stuff for market.

Rye for Pasture—To Kill Wild Roses.—J. V. S., Pella, Iowa, writes: "Will it do to sow rye in corn at the last cultivation, for fall and winter pasture? Will it make a crop the next year? Will plowing it under in the spring kill it, so that it will not interfere with a corn crop?"

REPLY:—Rye may be sown to advantage in corn for fall, winter and spring pasture. If not pastured too close or too late in the spring, it will make a crop. If plowed in the spring for corn, use a light chain, or a jointer, on the plow, and turn the rye all under out of sight. If carefully plowed under it will not grow and interfere with the corn. If the patch of wild roses is small, grub them out. If too large for grubbing, cut them off, plow them under with a new ground plow, cultivate thoroughly, and keep the sprouts cut off as fast as they appear. They cannot stand this treatment.

Mushroom Growing.—D. F., Pleasant Plains, Ill., writes: "Can you give information to prepare a mushroom bed, what time to plant spawn, etc.?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—At this season you can only grow the new summer mushroom (*Agaricus subrufescens*), but I am unable to tell you where you can get spawn. This will endure much heat and considerable moisture, which the common meadow or fall mushroom will not do. Make a hotbed of horse droppings and part loam or leaves. Pack this down tightly, and put on the sash. When the first violent heat has subsided, put in flakes of the spawn ten inches apart each way, just bedding them under the surface of the manure. In a few days put on two inches of loam, well patted down. Keep the sashes well shaded. To raise the common mushroom, you should wait until September or October, and prepare a bed of the same general description in a cellar, shed or cave, where the temperature can be kept pretty evenly at 50 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit. You might also plant some spawn in the pasture-lot or meadow in June, by lifting up a corner of the sod and placing a piece of spawn under it.

POULTRY FENCE.

We know of no line or article used by our readers that would interest them more than improvement in fencing, and we would now call your attention to what we think a very practical and substantial poultry fence; viz., that manufactured by the De Kalb Fence Co., of De Kalb, Ill. They claim this fencing does not require posts closer than two or three rods apart and does not require a top or bottom rail to hold it in perfect shape. This surely would be a great improvement and great saving over the old style of poultry fence; besides, they further claim that their fifty-inch fence will turn fowls better (because they do not have to use a top rail) than any fence six feet high where a top rail is used, as the rail forms a dark object for the chicken to light on. Write the above company for their catalogue and full description, which they will mail free with special terms, if you mention Farm and Fireside.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. Detmers, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Spavin.—J. E., Milton, Oregon, and M. R. L., Almyra, Ark. Please consult FARM AND FIRESIDE of November 15, 1894.

Ringbone.—L. Y., Brownstown, Kan. Your mare seems to have ringbone. Please consult FARM AND FIRESIDE of November 15, 1894.

A Lame Pig.—L. M., Montrose, Mo. If you make no further statement than that your pig is lame, I cannot answer your question.

Bad Water.—E. M., Verdella, Mo. I believe you are right in accusing the bad water as the cause of the disease and death of your calves.

An Invertebrate Fistula on the Withers.—C. S. J., Mountville, Ohio. Have the fistula treated and operated by a competent veterinarian.

Wind-broken.—G. N. B. So-called broken wind and chronic difficulty of breathing may be produced by quite a number of morbid conditions. Consult a veterinarian.

A Dead Cow.—C. B. A., Des Moines, Iowa. You ought to have induced the veterinarians to make a post-mortem examination, and to verify their diagnosis, and then the cause of death would have been known.

So-called Blind-teeth.—N. B. W., Davidson, N. C. What you call "blind-teeth" are small, rudimentary and very innocent teeth in front of the molars in the jaws of some horses. They do not affect the eyes.

A Pig with a "Lump" on its Back.—H. E. Z., Weldon Spring, Mo. If your pig has a "lump" on its back, and is lame in its hind legs, it may be that its dorsal column has been injured. I do not think that you can do anything.

Dandruff on a Cow.—H. C. W., Mansfield, Mass. If your cow is not otherwise sick, give her a good wash with soap and warm water, and then wash her with a five-per-cent solution of creoline (Pearson's) in water, and feed her well.

Weak in a Pastern-joint.—L. F., Fort Anne, N. Y. If the weakness in the pastern of your ten-months-old colt is congenital (you say the dam is the same), there is no prospect that your colt's foot will ever become normal and strong.

Bog-spavin and Blood-spavin.—H. K., Heyworth, Ill. Bog-spavin is an enlargement of the capsular ligament of the hock-joint, and blood-spavin is an enlargement of the vein (vena saphena) on the inner front surface of the hock.

A "Lump" on the Jaw.—R. A. N., Ranoke, Ind. If you will tell me what kind of a "lump" it is under the jaw of your cow, I may be able to answer your question. If you mean an edematous swelling, your cow, very likely, suffers from dropsy.

May be Rabies.—H. C. S., Yellow Bluff, Ala. If your dog died within a week after showing the first indications of sickness, the symptoms you have given, though not complete, correspond much more to those of rabies than to those of any other disease.

May be Garget.—S. W. C., Washington, N. J. What you describe may be garget, and it may be something worse. At any rate, when your cow has calved, milk thoroughly and often, and if it was nothing more than garget, you probably will have no more trouble.

A Fracture of the Ulna.—E. G. W., Falls City, Oreg. In a horse, a fracture of the ulna, or elbow bone, rarely ever heals; and if it should heal, the horse will remain a cripple. The draft of the strong anconeus muscles inserted to the elbow prevents the healing.

Many Questions.—C. P., Chicago, Ill. To answer all your questions would take much more time and space than I can spare. If your horse is not worthless, consult a veterinarian. There are more than enough of them in Chicago.

Bitter Milk.—J. P. M., Worthington, Minn. A bitter taste to the milk is often caused by the food given to the cow. If you will tell me what kinds of plants your cow finds and consumes on the pasture, I may be able to point out the cause to you. The treatment consists in removing the cause.

Sheep Dying—Sheep Eating Wool.—W. P. H., Warner, Tenn. Your sheep, it seems, die of some worm disease. It may be lung-worms (*Strongylus filaria*), or possibly so-called grubs in the head (larvæ of *Cestrus* ovis). Concerning the wool-eating sheep, please consult one of the last numbers of FARM AND FIRESIDE.

A Lame Mule.—T. A. C., Altoona, Pa. The lameness of your mule, that has been lame for six months, walks on the toe of its hind foot and shows shrinking of the muscles, may be caused by spavin, ringbone, or any other chronic ailment. Please consult FARM AND FIRESIDE of November 15, 1894, or else give a better description.

Bad to Milk.—T. C. S., Harrison Valley, Pa., writes: "I have a fresh cow that is very bad to milk, and have concluded to dry her up and fatten her for beef. I wish to know how to do it."

ANSWER:—Milk less often, first for several days once a day, then once every other day; feed dry food not too nutritious, and apply to the udder a salve composed of tritured gum camphor, one part, and soft soap, four to six parts.

Itching Pimples.—A. C. C., Sycamore, Miss. If you will give me a more detailed description of your case I may be able to comply with your request, but the simple statement that your mare has been growing stiff and clumsy for the past six or eight weeks, and that small pimples, about one to each joint, are breaking out, which are itching so, that the mare gnaws them until they bleed, is not sufficient to make a diagnosis.

Does not Yield Her Milk.—T. J., Oshkosh, Wis. If your cow does not yield her milk, try crosswise milking; that is, milk left fore and right hind teat, and right fore and left hind teat together, and then milk oftener, say three or four times a day. Perhaps it may be that the cow, in your absence, attends to the milking herself, or permits some other cow to suck her. It may, therefore, be well to watch her, and take suitable measures to prevent it.

Clonic Spasms in Young Pigs.—G. B., Berlin Heights, Ohio. What you complain of, the "teetering and jumping" of your pigs (clonic spasms), is a reflex movement, transmitted from sensory to motory nerves, and may be due to a weak constitution, pain, irritation, etc. Sometimes worms constitute the primary cause. If the causes are found and can be removed, a cure is possible; otherwise, not.

Periodical Ophthalmia.—A. L. H., Summerville, Tenn., and E. A. W., Madison, Conn. What you describe is periodical ophthalmia. It almost invariably leads to blindness. The use of an eye-water composed of atropin, one grain, and distilled water, one ounce, to be applied by means of a dropper, a drop or two at a time, will prevent a contraction of the pupil and adhesion between the crystalline lens and the iris, but will not prevent future attacks.

Fits.—J. E. F., Birmingham, Ala., writes: "My shepherd dog has fits occasionally. When he has them he trembles and shakes violently, his head feels hot, and he does not seem to see well."

ANSWER:—The symptoms given above indicate that your dog suffers from pressure upon the brain; but what produces the pressure, whether it is a blood clot, exudates, an exostosis, or something else, I cannot tell you. The prospect of recovery is a very slim one.

A Sternal Fistula.—W. L. G., Adair, Ky. What you describe is undoubtedly a fistula extending to the sternum. Such a fistula is next to incurable, because the sternum, a very porous bone, is carious at the end of the fistula. It is barely possible that a foreign body remained in the wound when the horse was roweled, and that this foreign body keeps up the suppuration. I would advise you to take your horse to Dr. S. E. Bennett, Professor of the state college, in Lexington, for examination, and perhaps treatment.

A Fistula Beneath the Lower Jaw.—J. M. H., Moxahala, Ohio. You say your colt has a "lump" of the size of a hen's egg under the lower jaw, which breaks and ruins at times, and consequently is a fistula, but you do not give its exact location, nor do you say where it leads. One cannot prescribe for a fistula if he does not know where it leads and what parts are injured; and besides this, the treatment of a fistula usually requires a surgical operation, which cannot be performed from a distance. Therefore, it will be best to have the case attended to by a veterinarian.

Ugly Warts.—D. P., Larned, Kan., writes: "I have a yearling mule with warts on legs and chest. They are as large as teacups, and are raw and sore and bloody."

ANSWER:—Fasten a small surgeon's sponge to a stick of convenient length, dip the sponge in fuming nitric acid, and when no more acid drops off, press the sponge gently to the wart. Repeat this until two thirds of the thickness of the wart is destroyed. Treat all others the same way, but see to it that none of the acid comes in contact with the healthy skin. In a few days you will be able to see whether any more applications of the acid are necessary or not.

Alopecia.—J. O. M., Hazlewood, Ky., writes: "What is the matter with my horse? He is five years old, eats well, and is in a thrifty condition. About four or five months ago his mane began to fall out, and is now all gone. His tail and the hair on portions of his body are also coming out, and none are coming back. He does not rub the parts affected. There is no irritation, and the crest of his neck and the parts of his body on which the hair has disappeared are as smooth as a man's hand."

ANSWER:—If there is no skin disease, if the horse is in a good condition, has not been sick, is lively and apparently in good health, no cause can be assigned and no remedy is known. Such a horse may be valuable as a curiosity to a circus.

Bloody Urine.—H. S. P., Nashville, Oreg., writes: "Please tell me the cause and cure of bloody urine in cows. When they first take sick they seem to pass pure blood very often, until they have been sick about two months, and then the blood clots, and the cows will stand and strain. In a few days they will die. They all have good appetite until they die."

ANSWER:—If pure blood and coagulated blood are admixed to the urine, the probable source of the blood is in the bladder, or possibly, perhaps, in the kidneys or ureters. The cause, probably, is a concrement, stone, or so-called calculus. Very hard water for drinking, very likely, constitutes the primary cause. If the presence of a concrement or stone is diagnosed in the living animal, the treatment would consist in removing the stone by a surgical operation.

A Fetid Catarrh.—A. J. M., Silver Beach, Wash., writes: "What shall I do for my horses? They had a bad cough, and now they have a very bad-smelling discharge from the nose. Both are young, in good order, and working hard."

ANSWER:—Exempt your horses from work and let them have rest; keep them on a light diet of sound food easy of digestion, and with an atomizer apply twice a day a spray of a two-per-cent solution of Pearson's creoline to the mucous membranes of the nasal cavities. If, however, the catarrhal inflammation should be found to extend to the frontal and maxillary sinuses, the latter may have to be opened by trepanation, and if the air-sacks should prove to be filled with purulent mucus, a surgical operation, consisting in opening the same, must be performed. The performance of these operations requires a veterinarian.

A Varix.—J. S. W., Hillsboro, Ohio, writes: "I have a horse, five years old, that has an enlargement in the large vein (external thoracic vein) just behind his left fore leg. I had him examined by a veterinarian, who called it a rupture of the blood-vessel, and said that he could take it up and tie it on each side of the two ruptures, and cure him. He also told me that it was liable to burst and to kill the horse at any time."

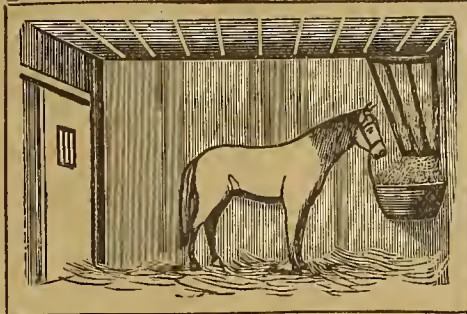
ANSWER:—In the first place, the vein is not ruptured, but simply enlarged. Still, although I would not apprehend any immediate danger, a rupture is not impossible if the varix is large and the walls of the vein, in consequence, are very thin. If the vein is closed with a ligature at both ends of the varix, the latter is disposed of, but the vein, too, will be closed and the circulation be somewhat interfered with, until it becomes restored by a gradual enlargement of small collateral vessels. The proposed operation, if well performed, is not particularly dangerous.

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Smiles.

BEYOND THE SYNDICATE.

"Cheer up, poor comrades, cheer up,
Let sighing and sorrowing stop,
Be strong, be stable,
No syndicate's able
To corner the blackberry crop."
—Carroll County, Ga., Times.

THE NAPOLEONIC REVOLT.

Oh, figure on the posters,
Our fleeting dream is o'er.
We do not mind a year or so,
But you're an awful bore.

We've had you in a purple hat,
Astride a yellow steed.
(A horse was never born like that,
Of an authentic breed!)

We've heard of all your follies,
Of the girls that you have kissed.
(Some like Beardsley's pictures;
They never would be missed!)

You've tempted scribes to sinful lies,
Of what you said and did—
Lies that to eternity
Will doom them to a grid.

You make us weary, Bonnie,
So bid us all adieu!
Do take a jaunt to—that's the place!—
And say, take "Triby," too!

—New York Press.

BACK TO TOWN.

We went into the country where the air was
pure and sweet,
But one can't live on air alone; it's rather
thin to eat;
And so we left the farm-house, when the
world was like a dream,
Because we couldn't get fresh eggs, nor butter,
cheese or cream.

We journeyed to the sea-shore next; the bath-
ing was divine,
But we were not amphibious, and could not
live on brine,
And so we went away again, tho' quite against
our wish,
Because no price could furnish us with one
good meal of fish.

And then we hurried back to town—a broiling,
burning spot;
There is no air, there is no brine, and every-
thing is hot;
But when the meal-time comes around, we're
happy as can be,
Because we have fresh country eggs, and fish
right from the sea.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox, in Truth.

LOPSIDED HENS.

SPEAKING of hens reminds me of a
worthy townsman of ours, J. Fair-
field Tuttle, who had a small patch
of strawberries so situated that
only a fence, and a very poor one
at that, divided them from a
neighbor's hen-yard, and these
same hens bothered our friend very much by
getting through the fence and scratching up
the strawberry-plants.

Our friend tried many ways to rid himself of
them, but failed until one day he saw his
neighbor in the act of setting another hen.

Now, it's necessary for you to know that the
hens above mentioned were of what is known
as the Shanghai breed and had very long legs.
It occurred to our friend Tuttle that he saw a
way out of the difficulty. So procuring half
a dozen bantam (short legs) eggs, he stole over
during the night, took out six of the eggs that
were under the hen and replaced them with
the six bantam.

What was the result? When the chicks were
hatched, each one had one short and one long
leg, and when they would stand on the short
leg and try to scratch with the long one, they
would only succeed in throwing themselves
over. When they would stand on the long
leg, the short one would not reach the ground
by several inches, and so in the matter of
scratching they were not in it, so to speak.—
Cape Elizabeth Sentinel.

SHE WAS AN OBSERVER.

"You have brought new sunshine into my
life," he said, rapturously.
"Do you mean that?" she asked, timidly.
"Of course I mean it. Can you doubt me?"
"Oh, of course, I know you wouldn't inten-
tionally misrepresent. But you know a young
man so often thinks a girl has brought sun-
shine into his life when in reality it's only
moonshine."—Washington Star.

EVIDENCES OF STRENGTH.

Bellefield—"Young Halfback gets his athletic
tastes very legitimately. He comes from a
very athletic family."

Bloomfield—"Is that so?"

Bellefield—"Yes. His father once held up a
train. He had an aunt who did some shoplift-
ing, and an uncle who was quite noted for
jumping board bills."—Cincinnati Gazette.

ETTE CETERA.

If "flannelette" means an "article not quite
equal to flannel, but closely resembling it, and
much cheaper," why should not peppercette,
mustardette, sugarette, whiskyette be in the
market?—Boston Journal.

GETTING EVEN.

"Haven't you got anything solid to eat?"
said a traveler, discontentedly eyeing the pro-
fusion of pies and small cakes on the counter
of a restaurant at one of the way stations.

"Shall I give you some beans?" said the pro-
prietor, with his most persuasive smile.

The traveler assented, and making short
work of them, asked: "How much?"

"Twenty-five cents," was the bland response.

"What!" cried the traveler. "Twenty-five
cents for a spoonful of cold beans?"

The proprietor continuing firm in his price,
the man paid it and departed. But late that
afternoon a telegram was handed in to the
restaurant-keeper, for which he paid twenty-
five cents. It ran thus: "Don't you think
your price a little high on beans?"—Silver Cross.

FOLLOWING THE RULE.

A teacher in one of the lower grades of a
city school was endeavoring to impress upon
her pupils the fact that a plural subject takes
a verb in the plural.

"Remember this," she said; "girls are, boys
are; a girl is, a boy is. Now, do you under-
stand it?"

Every hand in the room was raised in assent.
"Well, then," continued the teacher, "who
can give me a sentence with girls—plural,
remember?"

This time only one hand was raised, and that
belonged to a pretty little miss. "Please,
ma'am," she said, with all the assurance of a
primitive reasoning, "I can give a sentence:
'Girls, are my hat ou straight.'"—Cincinnati
Tribune.

AN ACCOMMODATION-TRAIN.

In a certain state of the South there is a
railroad which is leased for one cent a year, and
which has only one train, which makes up in
accommodation what it lacks in regularity.
It stops anywhere and everywhere. At a cer-
tain crossing it always stopped to take a dozen
eggs which a widow sent to town every day.
One morning the widow came out and said:

"I'm mighty sorry, Mister Conductor, but
I've got only eleven this morning."

"Never, mind, madam," he replied, cheer-
fully; "we'll wait."—Judge.

AN OKLAHOMA CORONER.

Tourist—"Dr. Slade, the coroner, seems to be
a very enterprising man."

Col. Handy Polk—"Enterprising! You bet!
Tell you what he done last summer when the
circus was here. One of the curiosities in the
side-show was an Egyptian mummy. Slade
seized the mummy, rounded up a jury,
brought in a verdict of "Dead from unknown
causes," and charged the county his regular
fee, with compound interest from the time of
Moses."—Truth.

"THE NEW WOMAN"—A RECIPE.

Take equal portions of Faith-cure, Christian
Science and Mind-cure. Add to these a suit-
able number of catchy sentiments from a
handsome, popular preacher. Sprinkle with
vague literary effusions. Boil down with a
superficial knowledge of one or two lan-
guages. Flavor to taste with a pinch of Political
Economy. Put in some totally new ideas on
the training of children. Beat well, and serve
in Bloomers, on a bicycle.—Puck.

SHE WAS.

Hojack—"Did you hear about Hunker and
his girl's Christmas present?"

Tomdick—"No; tell me."

Hojack—"He asked her what she would like
for a present, and she said she preferred to
be surprised, so he surprised her."

Tomdick—"How?"

Hojack—"Didn't give her a thing."

SHOCKING.

"Gracious!" exclaimed old Mrs. Dairyville
in horror, looking over the magazines, each of
which contained a "Life of Napoleon;" "I
knew Napoleon Bonyparty wasn't jest as cir-
cumsp'ct as he might have been, but I never
thought he led so many lives as these books
tells of."—Judge.

BETTER THAN BELLAMY.

Young wife (dreamily)—"How lovely it would
be if all things in this world would work in
harmony!"

Husband (thoughtfully)—"My, yes! For in-
stance, if coal would only go up and down
with the thermometer."—New York Weekly.

IMPECUNIOUS.

Jimmy—"Timmy Grogan is talkin' of gittin'
him a bysickle."

Mickey—"Him? He ain't got de price fer de
wind wot goes in de tires."—Indianapolis
Journal.

DIFFERENT EYES.

He (in love)—"There she goes with her St.
Bernard. Beauty and the beast over again."

The other one—"Yes; isn't he a beauty."—
Life.

One of the most useful adjuncts to a well-
equipped farm is a steel tank. One of the best
of which we have any knowledge is manufac-
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sonable price, etc., etc. Notice their adver-
tisement in this issue, and write them for
special terms, etc., which they will send to all
who mention Farm and Fireside.

TITBITS.

Potter—The scientists say that the way for a
man to sleep is to think of nothing."

Kidder—"But they are wrong. The way to
sleep is to think it is time to get up."—Vogue.

Two little children looking at the moon one
evening, the younger asked: "Is the moon
God's wife?"

Older child (patronizingly)—"No, you silly
child, God is a bachelor."—Life.

A Dexter woman got so much faith in
mind-readers and faith-cures that she threw
away her false teeth, expecting her natural
teeth to grow in again. She waited six
months, and now has neither faith nor teeth.

Mama—"What are you doing, Ned?"

Ned—"You told me that when I felt angry I
must count ten."

Mama—"Well?"

Ned—"I've counted seven hundred and
thirty-seven, and I'm just as angry as I was
before."

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WASN'T it pleasant, O brother mine,
In those old days of the lost sunshine
Of youth—when the Saturday's chores were
through,
And the "Sunday's wood" in the kitchen, too,
And we went visiting, "me and you,"
Out to Old Aunt Mary's?

It all comes back so clear to-day!
Though I am as bald as you are gray—
Out by the barn-lot and down the lane,
We patter along in the dust again,
As light as the tips of the drops of the rain,
Out to Old Aunt Mary's!

We cross the pasture, and through the wood
Where the old gray snag of the poplar stood,
Where the hammering "red-heads" hopped awry,
And the buzzard "raised" in the "clearing" sky
And lolled and circled as we went by
Out to Old Aunt Mary's.

And then in the dust of the road again;
And the teams we met, and the countrymen;
And the long highway, with sunshine spread
As thick as butter on country bread,
Our cares behind and our hearts ahead
Out to Old Aunt Mary's.



Why, I see her now in the open door,
Where the little gourds grew up the sides and o'er
The clapboard roof! And her face—ah, me!
Wasn't it good for a boy to see—
And wasn't it good for a boy to be
Out to Old Aunt Mary's?

And, O my brother, so far away,
This is to tell you she waits to-day
To welcome us—Aunt Mary fell
Asleep this morning, whispering, "Tell
The boys to come!" And all is well
Out to Old Aunt Mary's.

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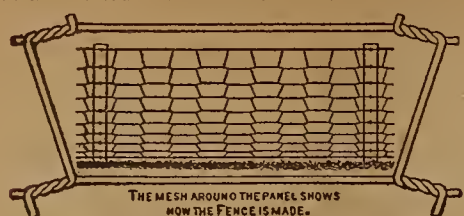
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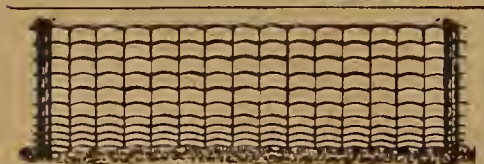
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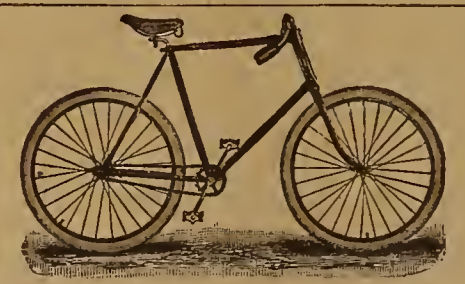
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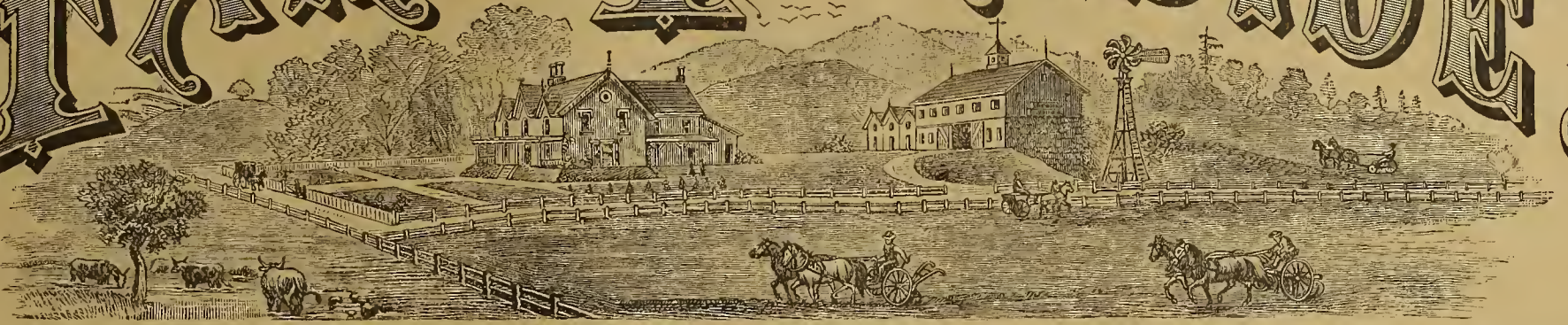
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FARM & FIRESIDE



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VOL. XVIII. NO. 18.

JUNE 15, 1895.

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See page 13, also pages 18 and 19.

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THE London *Financial News* is quoted as saying: "There can be no doubt about it, that if the United States were to adopt a silver basis to-morrow, British trade would be ruined before the year was out. Every American industry would be protected, not only at home, but in every other market. Of course, the states would suffer to a certain extent through having to pay their obligations abroad in gold, but the loss on exchange under this head would be a mere drop in the bucket compared with the profits to be reaped from the markets of South America and Asia, to say nothing of Europe. The marvel is that the United States has not long ago seized the opportunity, and but for the belief that the way of England is necessarily the way to commercial success and prosperity, undoubtedly it would have been done long ago."

How can the United States ruin British trade in the markets of the world? By underselling British manufactured products. How can American manufacturers do this? By having the labor cost of their products lowered in one way, and the way the editor of the *Financial News* had in mind when he penned the lines quoted. The proposition is simply this: If the United States Mexicanizes its monetary system by going down to the silver basis, employers of labor, by paying their workmen in currency depreciated one half, can reduce the price of their products so that they can undersell the British. To ruin British trade by the revolutionary change in our monetary system involves cutting down the earnings of American labor. But we need not wait for the drop to the silver basis to accomplish indirectly what can be done at once directly. If every workman in the land should walk up to his employer next Independence day and tell him he was willing to accept one half of his present wages, manufacturers could cut prices, undersell the British, and drive them from every market in Europe, Asia

and America before next Christmas. Are the wage-earners of this country willing to make such a sacrifice now in order to give their employers a temporary advantage over their foreign rivals? Or will they in a few months vote for a change in the monetary system that will force the sacrifice on them?

THERE is no doubt but that as the years go by it is constantly growing more difficult for those born in humble homes to make their way to the highest honors in the gift of the people.

There are many things in the life of Walter Q. Gresham (whose death, May 28th, brought mourning to the nation) which may serve as incentives to young men. He was born March 17, 1832, in Harrison county, Indiana, in an humble story-and-a-half farm-house not more than twenty feet wide by thirty feet long.

When he was two years old his father was killed. The boy remained with his mother on the farm, with but two or three winters' schooling, until he was sixteen years old. He then attended a seminary in the county town, accepting a position in the auditor's office, which enabled him to earn his board and lodging. After two years he was able to go to the Indiana State University, at Bloomington, for one year. Returning to his county-town, he obtained a deputy clerkship, passing his leisure hours in the study of law. In 1854 he was admitted to the bar. He soon gained favorable reputation as a careful and painstaking lawyer. In 1858 he married. Two years later he was elected as a member of the Indiana legislature. His subsequent record as a soldier, jurist and statesman is well known.

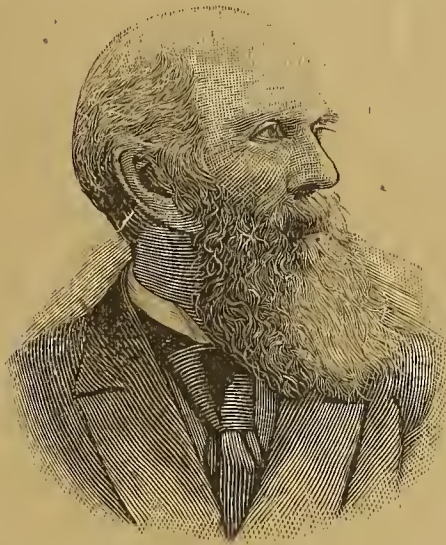
He arose from a humble position in life to the position of premier of the national administration. Every step of his career was won by painstaking and conscientious effort. He seems to have carried forward whatever he undertook with the utmost



WALTER Q. GRESHAM.

care. He dared confront any fate which the fortunes of war involved. His services in the field are indisputably and greatly appreciated. That he possessed unusual executive ability was shown by his efficient performance of the varied duties which devolved upon him as postmaster-general, secretary of the treasury and as a federal judge. He was a popular aspirant for the presidential nomination in 1888. In 1892, he came out publicly for Mr. Cleveland, and was rewarded by being appointed secretary of state. It is always a dangerous

thing for a man prominent in one political party to forsake its ranks and go over to the opposition. Whether such a move on



W. JENNINGS DEMOREST.

Mr. Gresham's part was for personal preference or not we do not know, but he certainly left his career open to criticism by accepting the highest office in the gift of the party to which he had so recently attached himself.

THERE are few among our readers who have not known something of W. Jennings Demorest. Almost every township in the land has had its various temperance contests in recitations for "gold medals." Mr. Demorest was a prominent editor and publisher in New York City. He was a born leader, and a personal friend of such men as Henry Ward Beecher, Horace Greeley, William H. Seward and others. His greatest work, however, has been in connection with Prohibition. The Demorest medal contest system was organized in 1886. These contests have done a great work in educating the youth of the land as to the wholesomeness of temperance. Over 40,000 medals have been distributed during those eight years. We are glad that this work will be continued.

IN a recent case before the courts of Belmont county, Ohio, involving a strike and trouble between union and non-union laborers, Judge Driggs, in charging the jury, said:

"It is a benefit to them and to the public that working-men should unite in their common interest and for a lawful purpose. They have labor to sell. If they stand together, they are often able to command better prices for their labor than when dealing singly with rich employers, because the necessities of a single employee may compel him to accept any terms offered. The working-men have the right to appoint officers, who shall advise them as to the course to be taken by them in their relation with their employers. The officers whom they appoint may advise them as to the proper course to be taken in regard to their employment, and if they choose to repose such authority in any one, he may order them, on pain of expulsion from their union, to leave peaceably the employ of their employer, because any of the terms of their employment are not satisfactory.

"But, on the other hand, every man is entitled to invest his capital, to carry on his business, bestow his labor or exercise his calling, if within the law, according to

his pleasure. The employer has the right to employ whom he pleases, if he can make a satisfactory agreement with the employed, and the laborer has the right to work for whom he pleases, and this right extends, of course, as well to the non-union as to the union. To interfere with the employer or the employee, by force or violence, be he union or non-union, is a crime.

"It is highly important to the citizens of this country that every person should have the right to sell his labor to whom he pleases, and that every person should have the right to employ any person with whom he can make a satisfactory contract. The converse of this protection and right on the part of laborer and employer would lead to anarchy, and would be subversive of all law, and would substitute the law of force for the laws of state."

FROM 1882 to 1895 the volume of national bank note circulation decreased from \$538,000,000 to about \$200,000,000. In fact, the national banking system as constituted at present is in process of extinction. It is frequently but erroneously charged that national banks have purposely retired their note circulation to contract the currency and make interest rates high. The true explanation is given in Muhleman's "Monetary Systems of the World," as follows:

"The decrease in the volume of national bank circulation is largely due to the decrease in the amount of the bonded debt of the United States and to the relatively high premium on the existing bonds. This latter feature compels the investment of so large an amount of money to obtain the required bonds, upon which only 90 per cent of the par can be issued in notes and loaned, that the money loaned out in the first instance would produce a larger income when the tax and other expenses on circulation are considered. This is especially the case when rates for money are in excess of 6 per cent, as is illustrated by the following calculation, based upon a 6-per-cent rate for money, with 4-per-cent bonds at 116 $\frac{3}{4}$:

\$100,000 fours at 116 $\frac{3}{4}$	\$4,000.00
Circulation, 90 per cent on par value.....	\$90,000.00
Deduct 5 per cent redemption fund.....	4,500.00
Loanable circulation invested at 6 per cent.....	\$85,500.00
Gross receipts.....	\$9,130.00
Deduct:	
One-per-cent tax on circulation.....	900.00
Annual cost of redemption.....	137.48
Express charges.....	3.00
Cost of plates for circulation.....	7.50
Agents' fees.....	7.50
Examinations.....	43.00
Sinking fund, reinvested quarterly to cover premium.....	696.36
	1,794.84
Net receipts.....	\$7,335.16
\$116,750 loaned at 6 per cent.....	7,005.00
Profit on circulation.....	330.16

"If the interest rate were 7 per cent, instead of 6 per cent, the profit would only be \$18. In other words, if the funds of a bank having \$116,000 to invest were loaned out originally at 7 per cent, instead of being used in organizing a bank under the national system, the loss would, on the face of the transaction, be only \$18, and the institution would have been free from the additional restrictions of the National Bank Act."

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When money is received the date will be changed, which will answer for a receipt.

When renewing your subscription, do not fail to say it is a renewal. If all our subscribers will do this, a great deal of trouble will be avoided. Also give your name and initials just as now on the yellow address label; don't change it to some other member of the family; if the paper is now coming in your wife's name, sign her name, just as it is on label, to your letter of renewal. Always name your post-office.

FARM AND FIRESIDE,
Springfield, Ohio.

The Advertisers in this Paper.

We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Wheat. The fifty-per-cent advance in the market price of wheat came when there was little wheat left in the farmers' hands, so the producers reaped but little benefit from it. They are now specially interested in the prices they may be able to obtain for the crop soon to be harvested. The prospects are favorable for good prices.

The Cincinnati *Price Current* says: "Our correspondence confirms the previous indications of serious damage to the winter-wheat crop in a large portion of the area in the central regions. In view of the interest manifest in the outlook of this portion of the crop, we have made a careful approximation for the several prominent states, and a general estimate for all others, and reach the conclusion that the present indications are not favorable for more than 280,000,000 bushels of winter wheat, including the Pacific coast, or approximately 70,000,000 bushels less than last year. With a good outlook for spring wheat, the total will manifestly not allow anything like the usual surplus for exportation the coming year. In other words, the total crop promise may be counted as not exceeding 425,000,000; the marketable surplus to be carried over may not be much in excess of 25,000,000, these quantities making a supply of 450,000,000, while the home requirements for the year may be counted as approximately 375,000,000 bushels."

This estimate, made by one of the most reliable trade journals in the world, leaves but 75,000,000 bushels of wheat for export the coming crop year. During the past four years our exports averaged over 180,000,000 bushels annually. Foreign quotations are rising in view of the crop conditions in this country and in Argentine and Russia. The reports from the latter countries, which are now our chief competitors in European markets, indicate that each will have less than the usual or expected amount for export.

Hessian Fly. An Indiana subscriber sends a specimen wheat-plant killed by clusters of something around the base of the stalks. The wheat in his locality is turning yellow in spots, and dying. He wants to know something about the life history of the insects and means of preventing their destructive work. The stool of wheat is badly infested

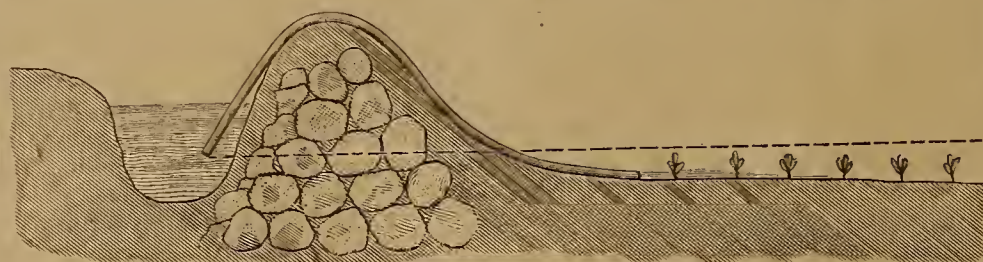
with the Hessian fly in the pupa, or "flaxseed," state. Reports indicate that much damage has been done the winter-wheat crop by the Hessian fly.

Concerning its life history, Prof. Lugg, entomologist of the Minnesota experiment station, says: "The eggs of the Hessian fly are laid singly or in groups of two or three, usually on the upper surface of the leaves of the young wheat-plant, soon after it appears from the ground in the autumn. Sometimes they are deposited on the stalk or on the under side of the leaf. The egg is translucent, of a pale color, and has the form of a very slender grain of rye, without the groove along the side. The larva hatches in about four days after the egg is laid, if the weather is warm, but in a considerably longer time if it is cool. It at once crowds down inside the sheath to its base, just below the surface of the ground. Here it fixes itself, head downward, to the surface of the stalk, and does not thereafter change its position. It does not gnaw into the stalk, but gradually becomes embedded in the stalk by absorbing its substance. In this way, by direct injuries to the stalk and by absorbing for its own growth the nourishment that should go to the leaves above, the plant is weakened, turns yellow and withers, and when there are many larvae on one stalk, it dies."

"In five to six weeks the larva has reached its full length of about three twentieths of an inch, and has changed from its original pale color to an opaque white. It then changes again, turning brown, then chestnut, enlarges somewhat, and then passes into the pupa, or flaxseed, state, the form in which it most commonly is observed by farmers. It is nearly the form of a flaxseed, but somewhat more flattened, especially at the head end. It passes the winter in this state."

"The imago, or adult fly, issues from the flaxseed state in warm weather of the early spring. It soon begins to lay eggs, and these eggs will produce a second crop, sometimes the third, the same season. The larvae of these eggs, on hatching, pass down to the lower joints of straw above ground. Here they grow like those of the other brood, change to the flaxseed state, and finally issue in the adult fly state in, perhaps, July or August."

"The one remedy which, in nearly all cases, will prevent the devastation of the Hessian fly is late planting. The later the planting is in winter-wheat states, the more certain it is that the eggs will be destroyed by the first sharp frosts of autumn."



Planting a strip of wheat along one side of the field early is recommended, so that the flies will deposit their eggs thereon, and then the eggs can be plowed under on this earlier wheat and be destroyed. Pasturing with sheep in the autumn, burning the stubble, applying lime to the ground, rolling the ground when the wheat is young, are recommended; but the only certain remedy is the autumn frosts."

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

Missed Opportunities. "When it rains soup," said a man who is chronically complaining of hard luck, "my plate is always upside down." But why does he not turn it up right and catch his share of the soup? In most (not in all) cases, the fault is rather with the man than with the plate. Opportunities come to almost everyone of us, at one time or another. But we must be ready to take hold of them. He who does this is the lucky one; he who lets the opportunities slip by unused is the one in "hard luck." And opportunities once gone by are gone by forever. One cannot run the mill with the water that has passed. Unfortunately, we see many of these golden opportunities only when it is too late. While a boy at

home (in one of the larger cities of the Fatherland), I had the very best of chances to acquire a thorough education. The drawing lessons which I was compelled to take, were looked upon by me at that time as something to pass (or rather fool) away time. That they could possibly ever be of value to me was an idea that did not enter my mind. Indeed, I never had much of the artistic talent, which seemed to be a natural gift of most members of my father's family, to begin with, and the little I did have was not as fully developed and trained (through my own fault) as it might have been, yet it is of untold value to me at the present day. Now I often feel keenly my lack of more thorough training, especially when I see something—a useful device or an interesting plant or fruit—a true picture of which I would like to show to the readers of my articles or books. In short, it is one of my "missed opportunities."

Value of Education. If you give to your boy an education, you give him something that is worth vastly more than a few thousand dollars or a good farm. It is something that he cannot easily lose, that cannot burn up, that cannot be spent. The sheriff cannot seize it. Good schooling, coupled with good sense, is worth a fortune in itself. When thus equipped, whether he has a dollar or not, a person can soon command a competence and independence. Schooling may not be money, but it is the magic wand that can turn into gold whatever it touches. A brother of mine, after an unlucky business venture, once came home to mother. "Mother," he said, "I have lost everything. Not a dollar is left." "Well, my son," was my mother's reply, "you have your head left." And this head soon proved that it was worth more than the \$8,000 or \$10,000 lost in business. In a few years he had recovered all his loss, and much more besides.

Educated by Compulsion. The great task set before every young fellow is to find the life work and occupation for which he is best fitted. A great many people never find it. They mistake their calling, and miss their opportunities. This, perhaps, not always through a fault of their own. Many are not given the chances in life. Poverty deprives many of educational chances and advantages. But when well-to-do farmers subordinate everything, even the education of their children, to their desire to hoard money, when they keep the boys at farm work rather than in school, for the sake of being able to give them a farm or a few thousand dollars later on, they make a grievous mistake, and do to their children a great wrong. This wrong is especially

Irrigating Gardens and Fields.

Irrigation, for ordinary field crops, will pay only under conditions that are especially favorable to irrigation. With garden and fruit crops, which represent a much greater money value, irrigation will often pay well, even if we have to go to considerable expense for the sake of getting the water on the land. The first construction of the irrigating plant—digging wells, putting up machinery, laying pipes, etc.—may cost hundreds, perhaps thousands of dollars, but a single crop, secured in spite of drought, will often pay the whole first cost. If there is any chance to get water to a market garden or a large strawberry plantation, its utilization is usually a paying investment. But when a stream or body of water is close by, and even above the area to be irrigated, in short, if the precious liquid (precious in a dry spell) can be had for the tapping, it would be one of the "missed opportunities" to neglect making use of it. In many cases that I know of it would only require opening a few furrows, or the laying of a few pipes, or the use of a few dollars' worth of hose to let the water into the gardens; and yet this is not done, because the owner does not appreciate all his opportunities. In a recent issue of the *New York Weekly Tribune*, somebody tells of "syphoning water to a garden." This is sometimes practicable, and cheaper than digging ditches. The idea will be made plain by a glance at the illustration. Here nature does its own pumping over the high bank. Get the pipe once filled, and running a steady stream at its lower end, and as long as the outside end is lower than the end inserted into the water supply, or rather, than the water-level, the water will be sucked up from the supply, and be steadily discharged from the lower end into the garden. Whether the home-made hose, described in these columns some years ago (description was given me by Mr. H. A. March, of Washington, and is now copied into the new edition of my "How to Make the Garden Pay," and "Celery for Profit"), will answer for these purposes or not, I am not prepared to state, but believe it will. In that case, a syphon of this kind, even when the water must be conducted quite a number of rods, can be made a very inexpensive affair.

Value of Carbon in the Soil. One of our readers (from Missouri) writes that he has never heard charcoal mentioned as having any fertilizing properties.

"In an old field in Washington county, Missouri, there are quite a number of old charcoal pits, burned some say thirty and some say fifty years ago. Now, while the land all around is worn out, those old coal-beds produce as if they were heavily manured with stable manure. Scientists tell us that charcoal is pure carbon. Now, are these wonderful results produced in consequence of the carbon drawing on the atmosphere for plant-foods? The lumps of coal are lying there apparently sound, and would appear just as capable of acting as promoters of plant growth as they have done for decades."

No, there is nothing new about this action of carbon. Its chief office, as here observed, is probably that it opens up and aerates the soil. It adds life and warmth to it. In my "Practical Farm Chemistry" you will find the following references to this action of carbon: "Like other porous substances, it possesses the power of absorbing and condensing gases. Hop growers know what a large bulk of dried hops can be condensed into the space of a bale by means of a good hop-press; but a hop-press is next to powerless when you compare it with charcoal. This substance will absorb and condense in itself ninety times its own bulk of ammonia, thirty-five times its bulk of carbonic acid, and other gases proportionately. It catches plant-foods, and brings and holds them for the use of vegetation. The precious but volatile ammonia is not only held, but brought into immediate contact with oxygen, all condensed in the charcoal pores, and changed into the stable nitric acid, etc." On the whole, I think that carbon occupies a position of greater importance in the economy of plant growth and profitable plant feeding than is assigned to it by a majority of farm writers, or might be inferred from the fact that no quotable value is conceded to it, or that it is entirely left out in the computation of commercial values of manures."

T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

PICKED POINTS.

PROF. BAILEY is as good a horticulturist as there is in the country. He said recently that potash is the chief fertilizer to be applied to fruit-trees, particularly after they come into bearing. It may be obtained in wood ashes and muriate of potash. He thinks potash should be applied to the ground in orchards annually, at the rate of about five hundred pounds of muriate to the acre.

And that reminds me how I exchanged two bushels of ashes for two bushels of peaches, and sold the latter for four dollars, a few years ago. A peach-tree at the back end of the house-lot seldom produced fruit, and when it did it was of a worthless character. Not caring whether it killed or cured, I spread two bushels of strong ashes under it, and the next season it produced as above stated, and the fruit was of excellent quality. The tree had been starved. Peaches and potash are a team which work well together in harness.

I am making a rather queer experiment in the line of apple growing which promises success. As a rule, apples bear biennially. Where all of one's orchard possesses this habit, he has a flood of apples one season and none the next; thus, he has profit from his orchard but half the time, and every alternate year must either purchase apples for family use or go without. It is doubtless true that the reason for this is, a heavy crop of fruit so exhausts trees that it takes the second year to recuperate. My theory is that if the fruit be all removed from a tree or any of its main branches soon after the fruit sets, that tree or branch will bear the next year. I have proceeded far enough in the experiment to have ocular evidence that the theory is correct, for at this writing I can show a branch of a Baldwin which was stripped of its fruit last June, and the balance bore heavily, and now this branch is full of fruit and the rest of the tree has none. A Seek-no-further tree, partly stripped two years ago, presented the same feature last season, and continues it this, on alternate sides.

If one should take one half of the young fruit off from all the branches, when fruit is thickly set, the usual result is, about as many bushels of apples will be grown, and they will be larger and of better quality; but this does not tend to make a biennial tree an annual bearer. The only way to accomplish this is as stated above. In the case of my Baldwin tree it would be natural to suppose that as the branch now in fruit is but a small fraction of all the tree, and as the main part bore heavily last season, that this lone branch would partake of the exhaustion and fail, with the rest of the tree, to produce this season; but this will be understood when the philosophy of tree growth is considered. It is a fact that certain roots support certain corresponding branches and no other. Each family of roots supports its own family of branches, and all together make the tree, as each human family supports its own household and all of them together make the nation.

Some may want proof of the last proposition. The root must decay before the branch or limb does. Where a considerable branch shows signs of general decay, as leaves shriveling up during the growing season, dig down into the ground and find the corresponding root, and it will be found to have progressed in decay further than the branch has, while all other roots and branches may be in healthful growth. I once resided on the slope of a knoll. In grading in front of the house, a chestnut-tree and an old oak were made the boundary line of a two-foot embankment. Rains had washed the soil pretty well from the roots of these trees, and the acorns and chestnuts they bore were sorry little things. The grading was done in the spring, and the new embankment came up just even with the trunks of the trees. The next fall it was noticed with astonishment that the chestnut bore two qualities of nuts and the oak two qualities of acorns, those growing on branches on the lower sides of the trees were small and inferior, and those growing on the upper branches were very large and superior. The earth

had mulched the roots on the upper sides and kept them moist, but they could impart no vigor to the branches on the lower parts of the trees.

Horticulturists seem to find trouble in locating the cause of the pear-tree blight. They may find it in the roots yet. I think inquiring minds would be pleased with results should they try my apple experiment this season. I would suggest that they strip all the apples from a large limb and its branches, which starts out from the body of the tree; but it would look better to do this from two quarters of the tree, on opposite sides. This would keep the tree balanced when each two opposite quarters were loaded with fruit. The young apples are to be picked when about the size of chestnuts. To get larger and better nuts of any kind, mulch the ground so heavily that the surface cannot become dry. Dead leaves keep the roots of forest trees moist.

A crippled soldier of my acquaintance has been in the poultry business ever since the close of the war. His line is the production of eggs for the general market. His 400 hens yield him a net income annually of a considerable more than \$500. One would think he should have learned by this time all there is to know of the business; but he meets with new problems every season. The last one of importance is to have chicks hatched in February and March for all-winter layers. This does not succeed, for the reason that so many of the very early ones commence to molt in midwinter. To get reliable winter layers he will now pluck most of the feathers from his yearling hens in July, so as to have them grow feathers while the weather is hot and eggs are cheap. April chickens are early enough for good winter layers, provided they are well cared for through the summer.

There is hardly anything that people are so negligent of as they are of their orchards; nor is there anything on the farm that pays better for care given them. I reside in a fruit section, where there is an apple orchard on every farm; but not one of our neighbors has any apples now, and not one of them had any to sell last fall, except cider apples, while we had over three hundred bushels of as nice apples as ever grew on our fifty trees. All that we did not use or need were sold at seventy-five cents a bushel. We sprayed our trees last spring, and nobody else did, and that is the reason. A tree that bears very early apples stands on the brink of a steep bank, and only one side of it could be sprayed. This side bore full of fair apples, and the unsprayed side none. We sold these at a dollar a bushel, and they more than paid for the spraying outfit and the poisons for the entire orchard.

It is observed that FARM AND FIRESIDE is not averse to speaking a kind word for southern agriculture. I have been connected with an agricultural paper several years, whose circulation is almost wholly in the South. I have especially sought a large personal correspondence from that section for the purpose of learning anything I could in relation to their farming interests. People at the North now understand pretty well that southern farmers are about "cottoned out," to use a localism. The large majority of farmers must seek some other channels of industry—must diversify their farming. Knowing the South to be as good a sheep country as there is on the globe, I suggested sheep husbandry. The people have plenty of land, but no money to stock it with sheep, although these animals can be purchased there at \$1.50 a head from those who must sell. I then announced, in that southern paper, that those who would take sheep, to double in four years, might write me. I have to date forty-eight applications, all from owners of plantations, whose addresses I can give to any inquirers. It seems to me that persons with little or much money to loan at interest, could safely place it in sheep in the South and double their capital in four years. Sheep will never be lower than they are now. I have no financial interest in the matter.

GALEN WILSON.

"BOOK-FARMING."

No longer does the farmer sneer at the new methods advocated by the "book-farmers." He has learned that the enterprising grower is ever ready to adopt sensible ideas, even if new or evolved from the columns of a paper. He has learned

that it is the enterprising granger who realizes a fair profit from his labor, while he himself produces just enough to live upon. He yet adheres to the maxim, "Experience is the best teacher." Only he prefers to let some one else do the experimenting, while he profits by the results. Even now, I greatly doubt if the efforts of a few unselfish growers, in behalf of the farmers of this country are justly appreciated; while three years back it would have been impossible to draw a comparison. The farmers' institutes, held annually in each county of some states, have done much to broaden the views of the farming class.

The farmer is just beginning to appreciate what is being done for him. The agricultural papers contain annually information worth ten times the subscription price—information which probably cost the author of the experiment much inconvenience and considerable labor and money. I do not believe that Messrs. Terry, Green, Allen, Greiner and other writers of the agricultural press are influenced greatly by monetary considerations. They give the results of their work and the improved methods followed, freely, because they desire to assist the farmer and to bring his work to a higher plane.

The United States Department of Agriculture is ready and willing to assist the farmer in many ways. Few farmers secure a copy of the annual report, a large and interesting volume, in which is given the results of much experimenting and experience. The volume may be secured free of charge by application to the senator or representative of the district, and yet but few take advantage of this liberal provision.

The editorial staffs of our papers give us their opinions and suggestions on the market prices, based on many years of experience; and they can usually foretell an advance or decline in the market by reason of the crop prospects and the many other happenings which influence prices. In the columns devoted to questions and answers, valuable information and advice may be had free of cost.

The farmer is learning that although a horse is a horse, in a broad sense, there is a great deal of difference in the breeds. He now knows that to produce the finest and largest quantity of butter he must keep the Jersey cow, while the Hereford and Short-horn grades are the most economically and easily fattened for market. He is beginning to realize that corn and oats cannot be successfully grown on poor soil, and that of the manure which should be spread on such land, from one third to one half the strength is lost through careless and ignorant handling. It is now generally known that the potato cannot be successfully grown on low, swampy, wet ground. These things, and more, he learns through the experience of others, published in our papers.

The future success in farming will not be a contest of strength. The farmer, to be most prosperous, must acquire as much or even more knowledge than is brought to bear in any other pursuit. He has much to learn.

To know the soils, their nature and requirements; the fertilizers and their relative values; the grains, their needs and the methods by which they may be successfully grown; the care and requirements of live stock—these and many other problems must be thoroughly mastered before the farmer may hope to be most prosperous.

There is a grand prospect before the farmer of the future. In no other pursuit is there more profit, in proportion to the investment; not alone in a money sense, but in health and happiness.

S. G. W.

A FEW SHEEP.

We plant between the rows, we put small apples in a barrel to fill up the chinks, and some farmers keep sheep for similar reasons. An authority on sheep says that three sheep may be kept with every cow without extra cost. This is a little too much to believe in all cases, although under certain conditions it might be true. If a farmer kept ten cows in an "even" pasture, where the feed was all of one kind, then the keeping of thirty sheep, three for each cow, in the same pasture without extra cost would be impossible; there would be no opportunity for the sheep to glean "between the rows;" but if the pasture was a general "mixture"—upland, meadow, brush or sprout land, swamp and thicket—then the thirty sheep might feed where the cows did not.

Sheep benefit any pasture. There is no better way to renew an old, run-down pasture (if worth renewing, and not worn out) than by means of a flock of sheep. Whether three sheep may thrive on what a cow leaves may be a question according to circumstances; but it is a fact that a few sheep, say five or six, may be kept with a herd of cows, say ten, without increasing the cost; the sheep are the small apples in the barrel, the plants that grow between the rows of another crop.

And the sheep herd well with cows. The dogs are still stealing sheep, and will continue to do so while both are on the face of the earth; but sheep with cows are safer than when by themselves. The dog may be bold among animals near his own size, but among animals larger he loses some or all of his boldness, and as has been proved often, he has not dared to attack sheep in a herd of cows. It is a strange fact that at an "agricultural" fair and horse trot in New England last year, a large purse was offered for dogs and only a few dollars, a mere pittance, for sheep.

This story is vouched for: Two sheep became the constant companions of a Polled Angus cow, grazing and keeping by her side continually. Separated from the rest of the herd one day in a corner of the pasture, a dog sprang over the wall to make his dinner of mutton. The cow had no horns, but she caught the dog against a stout fence when she charged upon him, and broke his back, and his mutton-stealing days were over. Every man has a right to his dog, but his dog has no right to my sheep.

It may be said in passing that the hornless cow may be quite as dangerous as the awful creature that wears horns. The farmers who are dehorning cattle (because some other farmer cuts off horns) declare that a cow born hornless, or a cow deprived of her horns, becomes a more docile animal, but this Polled Angus cow that killed the dog, a virago of a cow, if she did enjoy the companionship of sheep, could and did, oftener than was necessary, drive any horned animal in the herd; her hard head was more to be dreaded than a head with horns.

But why not keep sheep—a few, at least—in every herd of cows to fill up the chinks? And what is better for filling stomach chinks than mutton or lamb of your own raising? Every little helps, even the wool. Among farmers generally to-day the income is only an accumulation of little profits. The result of keeping a few sheep may result as it did to one farmer—his children petted the two sheep so much and became so attached to them and their lambs, that the farmer had not the heart to kill them for his own table. A cosset sheep, like a goat (I have had experience with a goat, and thank heaven, his race is run on the farm), if petted much, is a most destructive, annoying, exasperating animal—a veritable nuisance. Teach the sheep to go with the cows; if coddled too much, they will walk into the house and all over it, and eat up the fly-paper and the sitting-room curtains.

GEORGE APPLETON.

Rich Red Blood

Is the Foundation of the Wonderful Cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

That is Why the cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla are CURES.

That is Why Hood's Sarsaparilla cures the severest cases of Scrofula, Salt Rheum and other blood diseases.

That is Why it strengthens the nerves, gives energy in place of exhaustion.

That is Why the sales of Hood's Sarsaparilla have increased year after year, until it now requires for its production the largest Laboratory in the world.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the only True Blood Purifier prominently in the public eye to-day.

Hood's Pills easy to buy, easy to take, easy in effect. 25 cents.

Our Farm.

NOTES FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

SMASHED HOPES.—"There is many a slip between cup and lip." The fruit growers hereabouts, and over a wide territory, had a thorough taste of the truth of this old saying. A few weeks ago every tree was loaded with bloom, and the prospects seemed most flattering. Now we will be glad if the trees and vines escape with little injury. Fruit, we will have none—perhaps a few of the hardier varieties of peaches. Of cherries there will be enough to give the worms and birds a taste, and that is all they can reasonably expect this year. They will not have their fill. Grapes are gone. There is not a green leaf left in our vineyard, and it will be weeks before a new, fruitless growth is made. On fifty varieties of pears—once heavy with bloom and fruit well set—not a specimen fruit is to be found. Strawberries will give a part crop. This, indeed, is not easily destroyed entirely. There are always late fruit stalks which escape, simply because they are not out. When the earlier fruit stalks come to full development, and bear a full crop, the late ones are kept back, and may yield only worthless buttons. But when a frost takes the first crop, the strength of the plant goes into the late stalks, and we have just as fine fruit, and sometimes fully as much. For this reason I would rely much sooner on a strawberry crop than on any other fruit that is subject to injury from late frosts.

LESSONS OF THE FROST.—Grape growers have probably suffered the most. Many (perhaps the majority) of them depend entirely on the grape crop for their living. With the grape crop destroyed, they are left without income. The disaster coming so shortly after seasons of depressed prices, leaves many of the growers in a sad plight. This is also the case with many other people who depend chiefly on fruit crops as a source of their income. Fruit crops are never reliable, not even the orange. A Florida orange grower just writes me that his orange groves have all been killed for at least the next four or five years, and that he must look to onions or other crops for his money. I hope his fears are somewhat exaggerated. Yet the situation is a serious one, no doubt. It shows that it is not safe to bank everything on these uncertain crops. If the grower does not hold another crop or crops in reserve for emergencies, he must have enough ahead to bridge over a season or two of entire failure. If he does neither, his whole business is shaky.

SUBSTITUTES FOR FRUIT CROPS.—The letter of my Florida friend points the way to a partial solution of one of the great problems now before the suffering fruit grower. The soil is still left. If it cannot be used this year for the production of the originally intended fruit crop, it can be made to yield something else. We must live. If our grapes or small fruits refuse to furnish us the means to exist or subsist, we can grow potatoes, or corn, or melons, or turnips, or other crops, between the vines. Many are forced to make the attempt to grow such things, anyway, this year. It will not do to stand idly by bemoaning the loss. In some cases celery might be grown with profit between the rows of grapes. But don't undertake it unless you can make the ground rich enough. A little shade will not hurt the celery. Plow a deep, double furrow where you wish the celery row; then fill this at least two thirds full with fine old manure, and mix this thoroughly with the soil, going through repeatedly with a cultivator or shovel-plow. Then level the row with hoe and rake, draw a line, and set good, strong plants five inches apart. If you can raise a fine crop, it may give you some income to make up in part for the lost grapes.

DISEASE AMONG MELON-PLANTS.—I have just had another "slip between cup and lip." A few short weeks ago my melon-plants in boxes in the greenhouse awakened in my breast great anticipations of early and luscious melons. They started up nicely, and grew fine and thrifty. I thinned them to stand three in a box (each box a four and one half inch cube), and imagined I would have no trouble in getting them established in open ground as soon as the weather became real warm once more. But my

calculations were made without the host. All at once the plants began to wilt and die of root-rot, and now there is not one left. But "hope springs eternal in the human breast." If one crop is ruined, we hope that another will make up for the loss, just as in the case of the Florida orange grower and of the grape growers in this and other states. I have planted the melons over again, also in boxes, and shall set them out as soon as they make the first true leaves. Maybe the next lot will escape the trouble. At the same time I plant in open ground, the soil now being quite warm. Possibly those planted in open ground will beat the box plantings all to pieces, provided I keep the bugs at bay right from the start by my usual remedy; namely, covering with tobacco dust.

PUMPKINS AND SQUASHES AMONG CORN.—I do not know whether it is especially profitable to plant pumpkins and squashes among field and sweet corn. Whether it is or not, however, I like to see the vines and their great fruits lying thickly over the ground among the corn. Good Hubbard squashes come handy for the table in fall and winter, or for sale, and pumpkins for pies and for the cows. The trouble in recent years has been the prevalence of the bug. One cannot very well go over the whole corn-field every few days to put tobacco dust or bone-meal on every pumpkin and squash plant, and if this is neglected, the bugs are sure to get the whole business. I am now starting squash and pie-pumpkin plants in boxes to set out in the corn-field a few weeks later. I think if we plant them scatteringly over the field, say only in every fourth or fifth row, and twelve or fifteen feet apart in the row, we can keep better watch of them. If covered once or twice thoroughly with the dusty material, they will be out of the way of danger, and we shall have what pumpkins and squashes we want in the fall.

SUNFLOWERS.—I am also undecided yet whether I could get more off a piece of ground by planting sweet-corn, or even ordinary field-corn, or by planting sunflowers; but I want the latter, anyway. I like to see them grow, and produce their great disks, often over a foot in diameter. I like to have the seed, too, to feed to my hens in the fall, to make them shell out the eggs, and get fat, and get their feathers sleek and glossy. And if I had enough sunflower seed I would readily find use for it to feed cattle, or horses, or any other stock. So you can find quite a little patch of sunflowers on my place (the large black Mammoth Russian) every season. This year I have used them as a dividing line between sweet-corn and the ordinary varieties. There can be no question, either, that a very superior quality of oil, for table and other uses, could be extracted from sunflower seeds, and it is quite possible that the crop will sooner or later be grown extensively for oil-making purposes. I myself would gladly use the oil as a salad oil, if I could get it, as I do not like the taste of olive-oil, and do not always have a chance to procure poppy-oil. The crop is an easy one to grow, and it has few enemies, if you gather the heads promptly before the smaller birds take more than their share. I am not disposed to find fault with them if they only take a small percentage. Sunflowers grow on almost any kind of soil. Black muck, even if too wet for corn, is well suited for sunflower growing, and often produces an immense yield of stalk and seed. T. GREINER.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

GRAFTING THE PECAN.

Persons who have paid fancy prices for choice pecan-nuts for planting, hoping thereby to propagate trees that will produce similar nuts, are doomed to bitter disappointment. Seedlings of the pecan are no exception to the general rule that all seedlings are unreliable.

There is a pecan-tree in this county that bears large, oval nuts, finely flavored, with thin shells. These nuts have been largely planted around Monticello, and a good many of the trees have arrived at a bearing age; some of them are barren, but a majority of them produce nuts identical in shape with those of the parent tree, but so small that they are almost worthless. One tree only out of the lot bears a nut that approximates in size and flavor those of the parent. I believe that where very

large nuts are planted, at least nineteen out of every twenty will show this reversion of type, by producing fruit inferior in size and flavor to those planted.

If this is the case, then clearly the only way to obtain the desired qualities of size and flavor is by grafting.—J. H. Girardeau, Florida, in *Garden and Fruit Grower*.

CANE RUST OF RASPBERRIES (ANTHRACNOSE).

Cane rust is probably always present in a small way in raspberry plantations, but in average seasons vigorous plants are able to resist the disease and mature a crop of fruit, while in very dry seasons the plants cannot perfect the fruit, the wood for the next year, and the disease, and as a consequence the fruit is the part that is especially liable to suffer. A peculiar trait of this disease is that it does not seem to affect the vigor of growth of the young canes, but injures the crop just when it is ripening. Experiments in combating this disease have been quite successful.

TREATMENT FOR CANE RUST OF RASPBERRIES.—Judging from the result of ex-



RASPBERRY CANE AFFECTED WITH CANE RUST. Experiments in the prevention of cane rust, it would seem that the most rational treatment for it is as follows:

In the spring, before the canes start, spray them with a solution of sulphate of copper (blue vitriol) made by dissolving one pound of it in fifteen gallons of water. Later, spray the new canes with Bordeaux mixture, probably about three times, at intervals of about two weeks, commencing as soon as the new canes are one foot high. Care should be taken not to get the Bordeaux mixture on the leaves of the fruit-bearing canes, as they are quite liable to be burned by it.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Water-sprouts.—J. F. O., Hurricane, W. Va. Water-sprouts of apple-trees may safely be trimmed off in June, or at almost any other time, except when the tree is starting into growth in the spring.

Whitewashing Trees.—P. M., Chester-ville, Ohio. Whitewash is beneficial rather than hurtful to trees, and you need not be a bit worried about the results. However, there is but little advantage from the practice of whitewashing fruit-trees, and I do not believe it pays to do so. It is better to use some of the soap washes.

Ants, to Destroy.—R. V., Seaboard, Ala., writes: "What will keep ants from eating the leaves from my young fruit-trees and rose-bushes?"

REPLY.—If the nest of the ants can be found, make a small hole in it and put therein a small piece of cotton soaked in bisulphid of carbon. This material may be bought for about fifty cents a gallon. It should be kept away from fire, as it is as inflammable as gasoline. If the ants eat the leaves of your fruit-trees, spraying them with Paris green and water at the rate of one pound to one hundred gallons of water will kill them.

Lice and Bugs on Fruit-trees.—J. F. G., Jamesboro, Ind. The remedy is to spray with kerosene emulsion or tobacco-water made the color of strong tea. London purple will do no good, for the lice are searching insects, and only biting insects can be poisoned with Paris green, London purple or other arsenical poisons. Kerosene emulsion is made as follows: Soft soap, one quart, or hard soap—preferably whale-oil soap—one fourth pound, two quarts of hot water, one pint of kerosene. Stir until all are permanently mixed, and then add six quarts of water. Soft water makes a better emulsion than hard water. To mix the emulsion thoroughly, pump it through the spray-pump a few times.

Stable Manure around Fruit-trees.—L. W., Bayles, Cal. Better dig or plow the manure into the ground around the trees, and then keep the soil loose about three inches deep around the trees. The addition of rotten manure makes the soil more retentive of moisture, as well as furnishes plant-food. Coarse manure worked into the ground, unless it is worked in very early, so that it rots before warm weather sets in, is of no help in retaining moisture in the land. If you cannot cultivate the soil around your trees so as to keep a dust blanket around them all the time,

it would be a good plan to put some coarse manure or other mulch on the ground for several feet on all sides of the trees, to prevent evaporation from the soil.

Injured Grape-vines.—G. C. B., Moline, Kansas, writes: "What is the matter with my Concord grape-vines? Large vines, four years old, have been hearing for two years. Many of them do not leaf out, while the others are full of bloom and look well. I have examined the roots, and cannot find the cause. They have come out partly."

REPLY.—It is probably a case of root injury, due to the extreme drought of last year, which left the vine in a very weak condition for winter. In many of the drought-stricken sections there are many reports of injury this spring to trees and vines. Many forest trees that are generally considered extremely hardy, such as white birch and wild black cherry, have failed to leaf out this spring until very late, or are dead in the top, and in some cases the whole tree is dead. This is also the case with some of the scarlet and red oaks in dry locations.

Green Lice on Apple and Plum Trees.

—A. D. L., Excelsior, Minn. The eggs of the lice will be found around the buds of apple and plum trees in the winter. They are very small, though plainly visible on close examination, and are slimy black in color and oval in form. These eggs hatch into tiny lice as the buds begin to expand in the spring. They locate themselves upon the swelling buds and tender leaves, and inserting their heads in them, feed on the juices. All lice hatched at this season are females, and reach full size in ten or twelve days, when they commence to give birth to living young, producing about two daily for two or three weeks, after which the older ones die. They do not lay eggs during this period. The young locate themselves about the parents as closely as they can, and repeat the history of growth in their mothers, and are just as prolific. As the season advances, some of the lice acquire wings and fly off to found new colonies. When cold weather approaches, males as well as females are produced, and the season closes with the laying of the winter eggs. These lice exude a sweet substance, and it is sometimes so abundant as to drop from the trees, and is called honey-dew. Ants and various other insects are fond of this, and visit infected trees to obtain it. Even honey-bees will sometimes fill their comb with it. Ants even go so far as to stroke the backs of the lice to make them throw out the honey-dew, and on this account they are sometimes called the ants' cows. This honey-dew is supposed to be intended to serve as food for the young. The ants in your trees are not hurting them, and would not be found there were the lice removed. For remedy, see reply to J. F. G., this issue.

The Wonderful pea, which the southern experiment stations regard as the best variety grown, is without doubt the Unknown pea. It is a most valuable crop for soil fertilization, as well as for ensilage purposes.



Fair and beautiful

—the woman who keeps at a distance the complexion beautifiers, paints and powders, which soon ruin the face. A healthy glow to the skin, a face without wrinkles, and sparkling eyes, will be yours if you keep the system and the special internal organs in good condition. The young girl, or woman, often grows pale, wrinkled and thin, eats little, everything wearies her, she complains of herself as aching and sore and as sleeping poorly. Often she is troubled with backache, or a tender spine, with a bearing-down weight in the abdomen, or at periods she may be irregular, or suffer extreme pain from functional derangements.

Dr. Pierce, chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y., in his long and active experience, met many cases of this kind, for which he used a prescription which was found to cure such difficulties permanently in ninety-eight per cent. of all cases. Having proven so successful, Dr. Pierce put his "Favorite Prescription" on the market, and it is to-day sold more largely than any other medicine for the ills of woman.

For all functional derangements, displacements, ulceration, inflammation, and the catarrhal drain from the lining membranes of the special internal organs of women, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription reaches the origin of the trouble, and corrects it.

Mrs. MARY CRIM, of Franklin Co., Ill., writes: "A few years ago I took cold, which resulted in female trouble, and affected my whole system. About a year ago, I took chills, had one or two a month; they were very weakening. Had pains in my sides, more frequently in left side; gradually grew worse until, finally, I had to take to bed. I had a bad cough and, couldn't rest. I commenced taking your medicine, took it about four months, taking seven bottles of Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription and five of his 'Golden Medical Discovery.' My weight has increased, and I feel better and stouter than I have for years."



Mrs. M. CRIM.

Our Farm.

SOUTH ATLANTIC ORCHARD AND FARM NOTES.

The agricultural tendency of the times is toward varying and increasing the number of farm and orchard products.

The great profit that has accrued from the culture of hops in the East and on the Pacific coast, has set southern farmers to making inquiries as to where to get and how to set the sets. It is probable that hops can be successfully grown in the mountainous districts of the South, where the soil is deep and well filled with humus or vegetable mold.

A cotton-picking machine is now on exhibition at Atlanta, Ga., which practical cotton growers are convinced will pick cotton successfully. This is the second machine built by a Pittsburg inventor. A third machine will now be built in time for the great Atlanta exposition, which will do the work still more perfectly.

A hopeful sign of the times for southern farmers is that the directors of experiment stations are paying more attention than ever before to the improvement of the quality of grasses and forage plants. They recognize the fact that grazing is becoming more and more important, as the world's acreage of cotton is increasing so rapidly.

The fertilizer manufacturers of Maryland have just formed a state association for the benefit of their business. The association proposes to regulate prices, equalize freights, provide for uniform contracts, govern sales, give and take advice relative to all matters affecting the fertilizer business. Will the farmers be the last to organize for protecting their special interests?

All along the Allegheny and Blue Ridge mountains, never-failing springs can be found at high elevations. These ought to be utilized, and the water conducted to the strawberry and raspberry patches or fields, as well as to the vegetable gardens. In this way more profit could be realized from one acre than from ten in ordinary field crops.

The South is the real home of the sweet potato. Good crops of this indispensable product can be successfully and profitably grown from the Hudson river to the Rio Grande. As a drought-resisting crop it has no superior. The entire feasibility of drying, grinding and putting up the product in neat, salable packages has been settled beyond a question of doubt. Capital could be, and will no doubt soon be largely invested in this comparatively new industry.

The owner of every farm in the South, no matter if it be but a few acres, should aim to get a living from it. This is a better way than to risk all on one crop and going in debt to the country storekeeper for supplies at ruinously high prices. Have a good garden, raise some corn, a litter of March or April pigs, keep a cow, have some poultry, and at the end of the season a small surplus will be the result, instead of a debt that cannot be easily canceled with either cotton or tobacco.

Northeastern Georgia is the true home of the peach. There is hardly a locality that can compete with the one named. The fear that the market will be glutted has kept thousands from planting peach orchards, although aware that the profits would be five times as great as from growing cotton or corn. The farmer who plants peaches in Georgia is the one that will distance the five and one half cent cotton grower every time.

The Improved Dwarf Rocky Mountain cherry, which is favorably mentioned, page 261, New York experiment station bulletin No. 70, is recommended for trial by the editor of the *South Florida Home*. This cherry-tree attains a height of four to five feet; begins to bear the second year from planting; is free from the attacks of insects; is remarkably prolific, and gives promise of being useful in the garden, as well as both ornamental and useful on the lawn.

J. W., Jr.

RENOVATING AN ORCHARD—TALKS WITH A FRUIT GROWER.

As reputation goes in the county where he lives—or state, even—he is counted a successful farmer and fruit grower. But fruit is his hobby and so his specialty; and that is why, from starting with less than one thousand dollars, he has cleared the mortgage from his farm, repaired the buildings and added new ones, and is today aboveboard financially. His ventures in fruit growing form the chief factor to his success. The advantages of a good local market turned quite an extensive plum garden to good account, but his main reliance, from the first, was his apple orchard, which he renovated on a plan of his own. Said my friend:

"When I came into possession of these premises, I knew I should have to put out considerable money and invest in lots of backaches before the returns were anything adequate to the outlay. But I have stuck to it, and for several years my apple orchard across the highway there has paid good interest on the outlay, backaches and all."

"If I have the right idea, this orchard, and, in fact, the whole premises, was somewhat run down when you came into possession?"

"That was so. But the six acres of orchard have been my salvation, financially; although for the past five years my seventy-five plum-trees have paid fully as well."

"What method did you take to bring this orchard into such good condition?"

"The first thing I did was to put in some deep, permanent drains. Undrained, it is a poor site for an orchard, and the former owner found it so, and became discouraged. When I looked the premises over, I made up my mind that with proper management this orchard could be made the best in the county. The sequel shows that I did not misjudge the situation. I bought the place on that one chance. The soil is good and deep, but the formation is such that the trees stood in a water-soaked soil for half the season, unless the summer was a dry one. Apple-trees won't thrive in a cold, wet soil; they can't stand wet feet. They were covered with moss, and the annual growth was but an inch or two, while now and then a tree died out entirely."

"The first work was to lay out operations by a plan. The lay of the land is peculiar. Drains are of little use, unless you have a good outlet for the surplus water after it enters the drains. It was new work to me, but I thought I saw my way clearly, and cut a drain at the lowest point lengthwise of the field, and then run shorter ditches into this main one. It proved that this was the correct way, for down in the gully where the main drain terminates, there is a discharge of water most of the season."

"What did I use for a conduit for the water? For the main, three-inch tile, and two-inch for the feeders, and these latter fifteen feet apart; rather nearer, probably, than the most of people would have dug, but I have not regretted putting them so near together, although this was the most expensive work of the undertaking."

"The next work was to pull out, root and branch, a lot of scattering trees that were out of line with the regular rows, although it hurt my feelings to do it. This gave me a chance to plow. The trees were twenty-five feet apart each way—too near; I would rather have them thirty-five or forty feet—which made it fairly easy to get about with a span of horses. Well, the ground was gone over; you could hardly call it plowing, but it did not matter for the use I put it to."

"Made a hog-pasture of it?"

"Yes, something of that kind. But that wasn't all. I am told it was pastured for twenty-five years before I bought it, and its condition would bear out the statement. So I decided bone and potash was its great need, and the next fall I shoveled on three hundred pounds of finely ground bone, with twenty-five per cent potash, to the acre, after it was gone over with the plow. I hadn't a big amount of dressing to spare from the stable, but I managed, with using muck in the cellar and buying some at the village, to put on about three cords to the acre, which was spread on in the fall and thoroughly harrowed over and mixed as much as possible with the soil. The ground was rough and soddy, but smooth enough for a hog-pasture."

"Wouldn't it have been better to have applied all these fertilizers before plowing, and covered them deeper in the soil?" was queried.

"Ordinarily, perhaps it would; but I

HAVE YOU 5 OR MORE COWS?

If so a "Baby" Cream Separator will earn its cost for you every year. Why continue an inferior system another year at so great a loss? Dairying is now the only profitable feature of Agriculture. Properly conducted it always pays well, and must pay you. A De Laval Separator would save you \$10. to \$20. per cow per year, and there can be no question about it. All styles and capacities. Prices \$75. to \$200. Send for new 1895 catalogue. Beware of cheaply constructed, inferior, and patent infringing machines.

THE DE LAVAL SEPARATOR CO.,

Branch Offices: **ELGIN, ILL.** General Offices: **74 CORTLANDT ST., NEW YORK.**

had another object in view, as you will see. The next spring the drains told the story, and showed the value of draining retentive soils. The snows went off early, and the last week in April I was enabled to use the horses quite comfortably in harrowing in a crop of peas. These were the black-eyed Canada pea, and sown six pecks to the acre. And now you see why I harrowed in the fertilizer. It was rather shady for them, but by the last week in July my twenty-five shoats and pigs took a look at the premises. It was fun for all of us—pigs and myself. A more industrious set of grunters you never saw. Didn't they grow, though! And didn't they root, as well as eat green peas! We commenced furnishing cream to the butter-factory that season, and with our own and hiring several, kept eight cows. What with the skim-milk and the peas, after the pigs had the run of the orchard, and what green apples fell off the trees, kept the pigs growing like weeds. Well, by the middle of September you wouldn't have mistrusted that there had ever been a pea-vine in that vicinity, and the ground was anything but smooth."

"How about the trees? Did they show any perceptible gain that season?"

"Yes, they sort of pricked up their ears, like; the leaves took on a deeper green, and many of the more thrifty growing branches on all the trees made quite an increased growth, and the general appearance of most of the trees was more of thrift than poverty. The next year began to tell the story. The trees laughed all over the next May, and blossomed more freely, as I was told, than they had for twenty years. But I wasn't done. The peas worked so well the year before, that I determined to try them again; so another crop was grown on three hundred pounds of superphosphate to the acre, and that season I increased, by the help of a friend, both the hogs and the cows, letting the swine have the run of the orchard the first of August. They did good service, and trees and pigs began to boom. Most of the grass was killed or rooted out by the end of the second season, and the ground left in quite mellow condition."

"Some might say that better results can be attained by letting the pea crop come nearly to maturity and plow into the soil. Also, some object to having hogs in the orchard, on account of barking the trees, besides the inconvenience of their droppings. What is your opinion on these points?"

"The first is not worth a moment's consideration. The advantages in the way I managed are more than double than from plowing in the green crop. Hogs turned among the trees in early spring might get in the habit of stripping the bark from the smaller trees. I have known them to do so in May, when the leaves first put out, but turned in as late as the middle of July, I have never had any trouble in that way. There is some inconvenience in having so large a number of swine in the orchard, especially where there are early summer apples, as more or less fall before they are gathered. But the advantages, I think, more than counterbalance the inconveniences of the plan."

"The objection is made that such frequent plowing of the orchard will affect the trees by too great mutilation of the roots. Have you seen any ill effects from this cause?"

"This matter came into my calculations, and so the third season, instead of plowing among the trees, I put on a colter harrow with some fifty pounds weight upon it, and mellowed up the soil without disturbing the roots very much."

"My manure-heap ran low, as usual, so I forestalled the season that winter, and gathered up a lot of hard-wood ashes, enough so I scattered on in spring about fifty bushels to the acre, and then seeded the orchard down to clover. That season I thought best to keep the hogs off the ground, and turned in instead my herd of young Jersey heifers—six yearlings and ten calves—about the first of August. The next season, after the clover began to head, the hogs were given the liberty of a portion of the orchard again, and on the remainder the clover was turned under by light plowing and the ground smoothed over with a light colter harrow. There are some advantages in the latter plan over the hogs."

"Now, the question is, have the results proved commensurate with the expense and labor bestowed upon the orchard?"

"Yes. I think I am justified in saying that my hopes have been fully realized. A very marked improvement in the trees took place after the second year, and this advance has gone steadily on. The fifth year was a good season, and the crop of winter fruit nearly paid for the outlay for renovation, aside from my own labor. The trees are thrifty and healthy, and bear good crops quite regularly. An important item I should have mentioned was giving the trees a thorough trimming, cutting out all dead and superfluous branches. This was done the second season."

L. F. ABBOTT.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM MISSOURI.—Northwestern Missouri suits me exactly. We have a good corn country. We had light crops last year on account of dry weather. Most of our corn is put in with a lister. One man, with three good horses, can raise seventy-five acres of corn. Rent is very high, and the poor man has a hard time getting along when there is a crop failure.

York, Mo. A. A.

Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

PEKIN DUCKS FOR MARKET.

THE Pekin duck is an excellent layer, and grows rapidly when young, but it has one serious fault, which is its excitability. The slightest noise may cause a panic at midnight, or at any time, and with several hundred together they can alarm a whole community. When alarmed or excited, they rush pell-mell over each other from one end of the house or yard to the other; nor will they cease until exhausted, unless a lantern or other light is furnished them, when they will quiet down. When a "panic" takes place, it means the loss of a large amount of fat duck meat, which is dissipated by the exercise, and more food will be required to put on the flesh again. When the panic occurs, get to the flock at once and put up lights, no matter at what hour of the night it may be.

The ducklings may be allowed in the yards as soon as they feather, and even very young ones may go out on warm, clear days. They are sent to the market "dressed," and they must be dry-picked, all the pin-feathers being removed. In all other respects they are treated the same way as broilers. No one who has ever dressed a duck will worry for a repetition of the job, and no one knows how many feathers are on a duck until he attempts to get them off. With ducklings it is even more difficult, owing to the large proportion of pin-feathers. After a duck is supposed to be picked clean, it may be picked over again, apparently, half a dozen times, for they will have a fuzzy appearance. The dressing of these ducklings is the disagreeable portion of the business; but if you get your young ducks in good condition, and in large numbers for market, you will get fair prices, and be amply rewarded.

MINERAL MATTER IN THE FOOD.

There is no food superior to corn for creating the necessary animal heat in winter, and for supplying the carbonaceous matter of the egg (yolk), and though a hen may lay eggs for awhile on a corn diet, she will arrive at a stage, sooner or later, when she will become excessively fat. She cannot avoid this crisis, as she must consume a large quantity of corn in order to secure the nitrogen needed, and in the meantime she is taking on more carbon than is necessary.

When the hen is supplied with an allowance of green bones, cut clover, bran and meat, her food will be more nearly balanced. She requires not only concentrated food, but that which is bulky also, the latter serving to assist digestion, and adding for the supply of mineral matter. The lime in clover is in a condition for digestion and assimilation; and as clover contains thirty times as much mineral matter as corn, its addition to the ration is important. On the contrary, it may be stated that as the hen is called upon to perform a heavy service, if she produces eggs regularly, she must have her food concentrated to a certain extent, for she cannot eat enough if it is too bulky.

GREEN FOOD IN SUMMER.

Any food that will serve to promote milk production in cows will be found excellent as food for laying hens, but in winter the

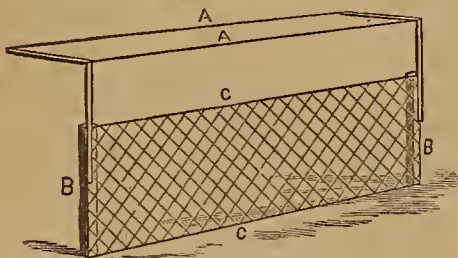


FIG. 1.

hens will be largely benefited with an occasional ration of meat, a pound for twenty hens being ample. But no matter how much space the hens may have, they will not thrive unless supplied with sharp gravel, which serves as teeth and grinds (or cuts) their food. Hens, like cows, prefer partial green, succulent food, and it should be supplied to them in summer, but in winter this is not possible. Clover hay is the cheapest form in which food can be given. The hens will be less liable to disease, will produce more eggs, and the eggs will hatch better, than if fed on an exclusive grain diet, while growing or young

stock will thrive equally as well. Green food in summer costs nothing, and the eggs will be correspondingly cheapened.

The object of all poultrymen is to obtain eggs at the lowest cost. The cost of the food does not indicate the real value of the food. True economy in feeding is to supply that which best answers the purpose, without regard to the cost of the food, as the final results depend on both the cost and the production. But clover is cheaper than grain, not only in price and feeding value, but in the beneficial results obtained from it, and the poultryman who omits it from his list of foods will not only deprive himself of a valuable egg production, but add to the cost of food without corresponding gain of profit. With clover as a part of the diet, the number of eggs will be increased.

DEVICE FOR FLYING HENS.

The illustration is intended to show the device, and not to give a design for a fence.

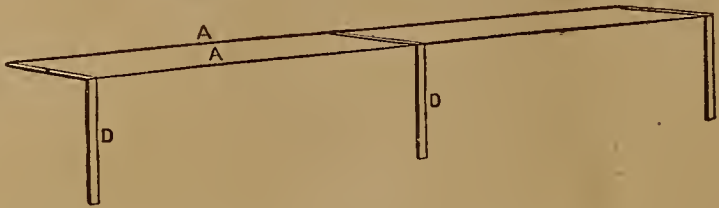


FIG. 2.

It may be attached to any kind of fence. Fig. 1 is a panel of a fence, A being strands of wire, B the posts and C the bottom and top rails. Fig. 2 is simply two wire strands fastened to strips of wood (D) of about eighteen inches in length for both pieces. The lower piece is nailed to the post, as shown in Fig. 1. The upper piece extends over into the yard. When a hen attempts to fly over the fence, she strikes the wire and is thrown back. It will cost but little to fasten such strips and wire to any kind of fence. Hens always alight on the top of the fence, and seldom fly over without so doing, and with this attachment they are caught before they reach the top.

LIME FOR GROWING STOCK.

A young chick requires food rich in mineral matter. It grows rapidly, and lime is an important element in the formation of bones and feathers. It should be supplied, not of course in its crude condition, but by using such foods as have it in solution. Corn-meal alone is not a suitable food, as it is deficient in lime, but used with other foods it serves a purpose in supplying warmth. A varied food, such as corn-meal (scalded or cooked), millet-seed, cracked wheat, fresh milk, clover-hay leaves and finely cut, fresh bones and meat, will enable them to grow rapidly.

Young chicks will sometimes thrive well until they are about ten days or two weeks old and then cease growing, become weak in the legs and gradually droop, finally dying. This may be due to several causes. One is the great drain upon the system while the chicks are feathering. This is more noticeable among Leghorns and other rapid-growing breeds, as compared with Brahmas, which feather slowly. This rapid production of feathers demands feeding four or five times a day, and on such foods as are rich in nitrogen and lime, such as milk, meat and bones. The chicks that feather slowly seldom droop from this cause. Another cause of loss is the large head-lice, and still another is lack of warmth during cold, damp weather, the chicks being too large to find shelter under the hen.

PLENTY OF ROOM IS ECONOMICAL.

When plenty of room is given to a flock of hens, the expenses are lessened, though more land is occupied. If but fifty hens are allowed on an acre of ground, and the space is so divided as to allow the hens to occupy but half an acre, while the other half is permitted to grow some kind of green food, they will secure a greater variety, and not only lay more eggs, but be more thrifty. The gain to the farmer will be in the insects secured, and during the summer season he will be required to feed but little.

It is a curious fact that the "intensive" system of farming is applied to poultry and not in other directions, when the case should be really reversed. If a whole acre of land is given up to fifty hens, they will pay as well if not better than anything else on the farm. Why should not the farmer resort to raising poultry himself, instead of leaving that branch of work to women on a limited area near the dwelling-house? It is no doubt a mistake to confine flocks of hens in small yards. By judicious management, hens in confinement can be made profitable, and the yard is the

proper place for all hens at certain seasons of the year; but so can the cow be staked on a small plot, or confined to the stable, though it may not be best for her. She is really confined when in the pasture, but is given plenty of room. The question is whether the hens do not deserve as much room as the cow, provided they pay a larger profit.

EGGS BY WEIGHT.

Until the time arrives when eggs are sold by weight, both the poultryman and the consumer will be cheated. The consumer who buys his eggs by the dozen never pays the same price. He has the advantage to-day and loses it to-morrow. When the prices paid are based on weight, the sales can be as easily made as with potatoes, which are now sold by weight when sales are made wholesale, though retail purchasers often pay dearly for allowing deliveries based upon bushel measures that

have slippery bottoms, all in which the articles are "artistically arranged," with a view of filling the measure with the fewest potatoes.

NO TROUGHS IN SUMMER.

Feeding too often is a serious mistake. If the hens are in good condition for laying, they will thrive much better if compelled to come off the roost in the morning and scratch for their breakfast than if they walk up to a feed-trough and fill their crops. The morning feed of grain and seeds may be scattered in the litter after they are on the roost at night, so that they can begin as early in the morning as they desire. Before going to roost at night they may be given all they can eat. They will digest all that the crop will hold before morning.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FEEDING FOWLS.—"What is the best food for fowls?" asks the novice in poultry keeping, to which I would reply, "The food which gives the best results for the least cost." This is not any one food, but a variety fed in such rotation that all kinds are relished. Wheat is considered the most complete grain food, but needs to be supplemented by vegetables, clover, or other green food and other grains. For cold regions corn is good, especially for an evening ration, if parched and fed warm. Potatoes, boiled, mashed, and thickened with mill feed to a crumbling dough, make a good morning mess, if fed warm. Laying fowls should not be fed oftener than twice a day. Cut bone, meat, finely cut clover, and sunflower seeds are all excellent, but nothing will keep your poultry in good condition if you fail to give them access to a supply of good, sharp grit. Clean gravel is the best, but broken crockery is good, as also crushed shells. Failure to supply some of these is often a cause of disease and death among poultry. A very interesting article in a late number of a leading journal shows how so-called cholera is often only indigestion caused by failure to obtain the needed grit. Charcoal is also a great preventive of disease, and should always be kept within reach of the fowls. In regard to the "how much to feed" question, I will say that if your food is of the kind I have advised, you need not be afraid of feeding too much, if you only feed twice a day, and the fowls can exercise sufficiently. Let them work for their living; scatter the grain ration about their yard, or sow it in the litter of their house, so that they must work for each grain. In summer, give them as wide a range as possible. If allowed the freedom of the orchard and pasture, they will glean a large share of their own food, and destroy, besides, many weed seeds and insect enemies. Fowls given such a range are much healthier, and produce harder chicks than those kept more closely confined, especially if these last are fed on rich and heating food. H. T. Junction City, Oreg.

ARTICHOKES FOR POULTRY.—Please inform "J. J." of San Francisco, Cal., to throw his raw artichokes to his fowls whole, and let them manage the rest. He may gather up the fragments—if he can find any. That is the way we dispose of them, and with excellent results. The fowls will pick them all to pieces and utilize them. The artichokes need no chopping or other preparation. Lincoln, Del. W. M. H.

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INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Feeding Ground Bone.—W. T. B., Canterbury, Va., writes: "What amount of ground bone should be fed to a dozen hens? How often through the summer, and is it necessary where hens have the run of the farm?"

REPLY:—Do not confound ground bone with cut green bone. The latter is better. One pound of ground bone, scattered, will serve the hens a week, and may be allowed at all seasons. One pound of green bones, cut fine, may be given twenty hens three times a week in summer, even when they are on the range.

Pip.—Mrs. C. P. J., South Hadley, Mass., writes: "My hens make a peculiar noise, as when eating grain, being a sound well known as pip. Is it a disease?"

REPLY:—It may be an attempt to rid the nostrils of some obstruction, being really a "sneeze," and may arise from a cold. If the fowls show no other symptoms, it will soon pass away. Inject two drops of a mixture of one part spirits of turpentine and four parts of sweet-oil in each nostril.

Gobblers as Sitters.—H. A. P., Laney, Wis., writes: "I read in the FARM AND FIRESIDE some time ago about gobblers hatching broods. Is there any way to induce them to sit?"

REPLY:—Gobblers sometimes assumes the duty of hatching out broods, but it is rarely that they do so. There is no way of inducing them to sit.

Preserving Eggs.—E. H. S., Darien Center, N. Y., writes: "1. Which method is best for preserving eggs? 2. Which is the better layer, the Brown or White Leghorn?"

REPLY:—1. The best mode of preserving eggs, (which we have frequently mentioned) is to keep them in a cool place, not higher than sixty degrees, turn them half over twice a week, and use eggs only from hens not with males. No solutions or packing materials are necessary, as they may be kept on racks. 2. There is no difference in the laying qualities of the Brown and White Leghorns.

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Yours respectfully,
Dunbar, Pa. C. H. KIMBALL.

Our Fireside.

A BOY'S BATTLE.

BY WILL ALLEN DROMGOOLE.

CHAPTER III.

IN THE THICKEST OF THE FIGHT.

THE scene that met the farmer at Uncle Jack's cabin, when he hastened thither at Aunt Jenny's entreaty, would have been a weird one indeed to one unaccustomed to southern scenes.

The cabins, set here and there among the locust-trees, were all ablaze with light, and every door stood wide open. The occupants had caught the news of the sheriff's arrival, and some were carrying the word to Pete's house; while others were hastening to Uncle Jack's cabin to see what would happen next.

When Andrew, who had gone with his father to the scene of trouble, saw the innocent old man standing between the sheriff and his deputies, his first impulse was to cry out and proclaim himself the one they were in search of. But when he saw one of the officers take a pair of handcuffs from his pocket, and understood that neither his father's interference nor Aunt Jenny's grief could avail to prevent the course of the law, he was more frightened than he had been at any time since the accident occurred. Tell? Confess? He was so far from it that he actually bit his lips, lest the confession slip from him in spite of himself.

Such a scene as the negroes were making, too; some shouting, others crying, all of them full of excitement and interest. Only one, a tall, strong-looking boy, standing slightly apart from the others, and nearer to the prisoner, with his arms folded upon his breast, did not join in the wailing and lamentings, nor yet in the revilings going on about him. Yet he was deeply interested; his quick, bright eye turned first upon the sheriff, then upon the prisoner. It was Mose, one of the regular hands, and he was watching for an opportunity to serve Uncle Jack.

Uncle Jack, to all appearances, was the least concerned in affairs of any one present. He did not once look at Andrew, but stood quietly attentive while the master talked with the sheriff.

"I have employed him on my plantation since I had one," Mr. Pearson was saying, "and my father had him on his twenty years before I took him. If he was ever guilty of a cruel or even an unkind act, I never heard of it."

"Don't doubt all you say is the truth, cap'n," said the officer, "but we've got a warrant for him, an' he'll have to come with us. Hey, there, come back from there, sir!"

This was to Uncle Jack, who had ventured a step toward the open kitchen door.

At the sheriff's command, he showed his ivory in a broad grin.

"Lor, marster," he said, "hit ain' no use to git mad. I wuz unly gwine in dar to git my conjure-bag."

"Your what?"

"My conjure-bag, marster; ter keep de ebul off. Dey ain' nuthin' kin hurt de ole man, ef you jes' let him fetch dat conjure-bag 'long wid him."

"Well, we haven't time for any such foolishness to-night," said the sheriff. "You will have to do without your conjure-bag and rabbit's foot this time, old man."

"Yes, sah," said Jack. "I's got de rabbit's foot, en hit'll sholy hep; but de luck'll be mo' better ef I kin fetch de eunjure-bag long, too, sholy, sholy."

But the officers had no further time to lose in useless discussion; they consulted together a moment, and it was finally decided that the prisoner should ride to town on the horse with one of the deputies.

As they made their final preparations for starting, Andrew drew back behind his father. He had heard every word; his face, in the moonlight, had a set, white look, and all the boyish sweetness had gone out of it. It was always a strong face, but to-night the strength resembled hardness rather than character. He drew back out of sight; if Uncle Jack should look at him he felt that he would almost die. How everybody must despise him for a coward, if they knew that he was

allowing a helpless old man to be carried off alone, at night, for a crime of which he was totally innocent. How he despised himself. Again came the impulse to confess; again he stepped forward and placed his hand upon the farmer's arm.

"Father?"

"Yes, yes, son," said Mr. Pearson; "I know what you are going to say. One of us must go with him; but it had best be me. Could

Unable to endure the sight of his distress, Andrew stepped forward and seized his father's arm.

"What is it, son? Don't bother me now. Go up to the house and tell your mother I have gone to town with the officers. And tell her to keep Aunt Jenny up there with her, and to do all she can for Pete."

"Marster," said a woman's wailing voice, "Pete's daid."

ole nigger; he kin profensy dat much. Ain' he got a rabbit foot in his pocket what uz kotched in de grabeyard Sadday night by cross-eye Joe? Eh, eh! ole Molly Har' nebbber hab de insurance ter shake her foot in de grabeyard agin ef dis un can't shake off dis here little disunderstandin'. Ole Jack ain' feard; dey ain' nuthin' gwine hurt him, sholy, sholy."

And somehow the fearless good humor, the outspoken faith, made his captors think the same thing, that no harm would come to Uncle Jack. The farmer, however, felt grave doubts and forebodings; there was something premonitorily suggestive in the glister of metal in the moonlight where Uncle Jack sat behind the deputy with his crossed hands pinioned behind him. He felt glad that Andrew did not know how the officers had seen fit to handcuff their prisoner.

But Andrew did not know; he did not recover from his swoon until the men were gone. Now he was sitting alone in his mother's room, fighting his solitary battle with conscience. The scene through which he had just passed had so unnerved him that his last little spark of courage had left him.

To kill a man, that was bad enough, and hard enough to bear; but to sit like a coward and see another suffer for his deed, that was worse, and infinitely harder to bear.

He fought bravely with the temptation to silence, the fear of confession. One moment he would be resolved to make a clean breast of it, but before he could speak, some suggestion of the evil one would tempt him again to keep silence.

"Perhaps they'll clear Uncle Jack," said the tempter; "they haven't any proof. Then nobody will be hurt, since no confession can restore Pete to life again."

He did not consider the stain, the suspicion that must forever attach to

the good name of the accused; he was thinking only of his own safety.

After awhile his mother came in to get something for Aunt Jenny, who had begged



RODE AWAY TO JAIL BEHIND THE DEPUTY SHERIFF.

you wait a moment, officer, until I can get a horse to ride back with you? I must try to get bail for him. I do not believe him guilty, and none of you people (turning to the excited crowd of blacks) must believe it until it has been proved."

A sharp voice from the crowd at once demanded:

"Ef he ain' guilty, huccome he ain' say so?" The master hesitated, then replied, at a venture:

"Because what he may say here will appear as evidence in the trial. Here, Mose, Joe, run, one of you, and saddle a horse for me, and be quick about it."

Mose stepped eagerly forward; his time for service had come.

"Marster," said he, "I see de bay mare standin' at de hitch-post wid de saddle an' bridle on her, ez I come 'long down here."

"Bring her around to the big gate, quick, my boy; you may need a friend yourself some day."

"Yes, sah," said Mose. "I spec' dat am de gospol troof."

It was the mare Andrew had ridden, and had left standing at the hitching-post, while he carried the news of the accident to Big Liza. Nobody had thought, in the excitement, of carrying her to the stable.

Mose led her around to the gate and hitched her with the sheriff's horses, after which he ran across the yard and slipped into Aunt Jenny's cabin through the door on the other side, unseen by the crowd.

The plantation hands were not unfriendly to Uncle Jack, but they were excited by Pete's condition and the wild grief of his wife. Moreover, the question put to the master was not without its effect. If Jack was innocent, why had he not denied his guilt? Only Andrew knew. Andrew, and perhaps Uncle Jack himself.

The little squad was ready to start.

"Marster," said Jack at the last moment, "mayn't I git de eunjure-bag?"

"No you mayn't," said the sheriff. "Now come along with you."

"Marster," pleaded the old man, "hit won't hurt nothin'."

"Well, I shall hurt something," said the officer, "if there's any more of this foolishness. And I wouldn't be surprised much if I hurt it tolerable bad, too; see?"

Andrew saw then that for the first time Uncle Jack's courage deserted him; he hesitated, sighed, gave a helpless, pleading look at the crowd of familiar faces, and burst into tears.

Instantly the wail was caught up by the crowd of men, women and children.

"Pete's daid! Pete's daid! po' Pete! po' Pete's daid!"

Andrew heard the cry, and the terrible words made him reel and grow faint. He had an idea that Aunt Jenny, near whose door he was standing, stuffed something into the hand of Mose; he felt, rather than heard, the low, hoarse, sorrow-broken words which she poured into his ear.

"Put it into Jack's own hands," Andrew thought she said. "Tell him ter keep it by him constant; en ef you can't git ter Jack, gh it ter de little marster, en tell him Aunt Jinny say dat po' Jack wuz allers mighty good ter him. He'll understand, sholy, sholy; he allers loved Unc' Jack."

Andrew neither heard nor saw more. He reeled, tottered, and fell forward just as a pair of strong old arms were extended to receive him, in spite of the sheriff's command to "move on." But when the squad moved off, Andrew had been carried, unconscious, to the farm-house; so that Mose was left to his own devices to deliver the charge into Uncle Jack's hands. Finally, by artful dodging and maneuvering, a pretense of tightening saddle-girths and readjusting bridle-reins, he was able to slip the queer little package into the old man's hand, while the sheriff was trying to fit the key of the handcuffs into the lock, preparatory to securing his prisoner.

"Hit am de conjure-bag," was all he could say before the officer was upon him; but he saw the furrowed old face light up as old Jack's hand closed upon his treasure. He was himself again, fearless, good-natured, hopeful, afraid of no danger so long as that little bagful of horsehair, squirrel teeth and the parings of his own finger nails lay upon his heart.

"Ef I'd a wo' it dis maw'nin', lack I ought, I nebbber would got inter all dis here fuss en worryment," was his thought, as he rode away to jail behind the deputy sheriff.

The sudden revival of hope was not lost upon the farmer. Once he called out to him to know how he was "getting along." The reply was characteristic of the man.

"Who, me?"

"Yes, you," said a deputy; "if you are the fellow that's to be tried for your life, and maybe hung to a poplar-tree before the law can erect a gallows for you."

"Eh, eh! don't you h'ieve a word o' dat you's tellin', honey," said Jack. "Dat's des' a little tale you's tellin' des' ter gib yo' mouf a change. Dey ain' nothin' 'tall gwine hurt dis



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permission to go back to the cabin, being uneasy about the fire.

"The very best thing," his mother was saying to Jack's wife, "when a body has done wrong, is to up and confess it, an' ask to be forgiven. Own up like a man. Folks'll respect him then, even if he has to be hung for it. I say own up; it's the best easier to conscience top side o' earth, I reckon."

And before he thought what he was doing, Andrew said, "Yes, ma'am."

She turned upon him so sharply that he almost fell off the chair.

"You, Andrew," said she. "What's that you're sayin'?"

He put his hand to his head in a dazed, stupid way, and stared at her. His brain was a whirl of confused voices which called to him in wailing accents:

"Pete's daid! Pete's daid! po' Pete!" "If he ain't guilty, why'n't he say so?" "They'll hang me, they'll hang me, if I don't get my cunjure-bag." And above all thundered in his ears the coarse joking of the sheriff: "I'll hurt something; hurt it pretty bad, too."

"What's that you're saying, Andrew?"

His mother repeated her question. He replied, absently:

"I don't know, mother. Did I say something?"

His words and manner so startled her that she came and bent over him, her hand upon his throbbing temples, a strange tenderness in her eyes.

"Are you sick, son?" she asked. "Ain't you a bit feverish?"

"No, mother," he replied; "I'm not sick, but I would like to help, to do something. Isn't there something I can do? It will kill me to sit still here and not try to do anything."

She seemed to see, to understand for the time, that her son was no longer the baby boy she had been blindly trying to keep him.

"Yes," she said, "you may carry a plate of victuals down to Aunt Jenny. She wouldn't wait long enough to get anything, and she hasn't had any supper. But mind you, don't go 'bout the—"

He stopped, lifted his head, and waited.

"Nothin'," said she, "the plate's on the side table in the dinin'-room."

She had been about to caution him not to go near the well, a thing she had learned to do when he was a boy in his first kilts, and had never learned to leave off doing. To-night, however, there was that in his face admonished her that he no longer wore kilts.

At ten o'clock Mr. Pearson had not returned. At half-past ten Andrew walked down to the big gate to see if there were any signs of him.

"I ought to tell; oh, I ought to tell!" was the refrain that was ringing in his brain. "I ought to tell, and I'm afraid. I'm a coward, a coward, a coward!"

He almost screamed the words out to whoever might chance to be listening, and to the silent, watching stars that seemed to be looking down into his heart, to read there his guilty secret.

"I ought to tell—and I will tell, if they truly try to punish Uncle Jack. I declare it."

He felt better for even this half confession, and started back to the house, when he heard the great hall clock striking eleven. His mother was still up, anxiously waiting the return of the master. In Aunt Jenny's house, too, a light was burning. Suddenly Andrew stopped and peered through the half-denuded rose-bushes that studded the yard. In the moonlight he had seen a stealthy figure creeping across the yard, in the direction of the cotton-gin.

He thought at first it was some one going to sit up with Pete, but in a moment there was another and another, and still more, until he had counted thirty. Something was on foot, something that meant danger to some one. His father was absent, his mother alone in the house. In an instant his natural courage was aroused.

I will get the gun and go over to the gin and see what this gathering means," said he. "It might be tramps, and father doesn't allow them in the gin; it endangers the cotton. Tramps? Thirty of them?"

In an instant he knew better; it was something more serious than tramps.

As he entered the front hall door to get the gun, Aunt Jenny ran in by the back door, going to his mother's room. At sight of her all his nervous fear returned. He leaned against the facing of the door for support, while she called to his mother:

"Miss Marthy? Oh, Miss Marthy, fur de good Lord's sake try en stop 'em! Blind Sam's done come here en fotched some mo' men from all the plantations round here; en dey's gwine ter fetch Jack out de jail en hang him. Hit's de mob; de mob's done come fur my ole man."

Her words rang in Andrew's ears like the clang of an iron bell.

"Mother," said he, "I am going down there; I can stop them."

She sprang forward and caught his arm, as he was about to run across the hall to the door.

"No," she cried; "you stay here—"

"I can't! I mustn't! I won't!"

It was the first time in his life he had ever given her such a reply, or dared to contest his will against hers. But now he was struggling to free himself; to get away, regardless of her pleadings and commands alike.

"Do you think I don't know best?" she insisted. "Listen at that."

A sound like the muffled cry of a multitude

was borne to them through the open doors—the cry of the mob. In an instant Andrew's courage deserted him. Put himself in the hands of that gang? They would not get beyond the spring branch with him.

"Mother," the cry was a shriek, "go to them! Stop them! You must stop them! Uncle Jack didn't shoot Yellow Pete; it was—"

He reeled, caught at the air, and for the second time that night fainted.

"Stay here with him, Aunt Jenny," said Mrs. Pearson, and there was that in her manner that told where Andrew got his boasted courage. "Stay here with him, and tell me where the men are gathering, quick."

"In de laue by de gin-house, on de fur side, in de shadder. But you can't go down dar by yo'self, Miss Marthy; dey'll—"

"I'm not afraid of the hands," was the quick reply, as she threw a shawl over her head and went out into the darkness.

As she stepped outside, under the shadow of the trees, the sounds of hurrying hoof-beats on the hard, smooth turpikie could be heard. She ran down to the big gate, reaching it at the moment a solitary horseman rode up and leaned forward to lift the latch.

"John?" she called. "Is that you, John?"

"Yes, mother," said the farmer.

"Thank God!" was the fervent response, as she placed her hand upon the mare's bit to stop her.

"Don't get down, husband, but ride on down into the lane by the gin-house, where there is a mob forming, quick—on the other side, in the shadow. Tell them—"

"I'll tell them they have denied him bail," he called back over his shoulder. "That will convince them the law isn't to be trifled with."

She followed him for a little distance, hearing the mare's hoofs growing fainter and fainter upon the soft, red soil when the master had turned her off the pike into the lane.

They were not a cruel set, those ignorant, impulsive men, but they were easily led, easily influenced, easily wrought upon. To-night they were following Blind Sam, the worst of leaders, and one who held many a grudge against Uncle Jack.

A moment, and Mrs. Pearson no longer heard the mare's hoofs in the lane; but the master's voice could easily be distinguished, urging the men to disband.

"Those from other plantations must go home at once," he declared. "And I take this occasion to notify Blind Sam that he must not set foot on my plantation again. Clear out!" he commanded, "all of you who do not belong here. I want to speak to my own people."

He was promptly answered by a shout, whether of approval or defiance the listener in the red lane could not tell.

"Oh," she murmured, "if he would only think to remind them how good Uncle Jack has always been to them; not one of them but he and Aunt Jenny have befriended. They know it; they are only carried away by Liza's ravings. To-morrow they will be as quiet as lambs, and she the most quiet one among them all. Why doesn't he tell them?"

There was at this moment another shout; a moment later a number of dark objects could be seen hastening down the lane. Had they disbanded, or were they only moving on to the jail? She turned back in the direction of the house, quickly, in order not to encounter them; but near the door she stopped in the shadow and watched what they would do. If they should turn into the pike it meant trouble; if not—

"Oh!" she gave a little sobbing cry, as she saw the heavy, dark, moving mass suddenly sway and break and begin to scatter. "Thank God," she said, "they are disbanding."

[To be continued.]

DARKENED SLEEPING-ROOMS.

It is claimed by some physicians that the brain cannot rest perfectly unless all light is excluded from the sleeping-room, and whether in going to bed at night or simply lying down for a half hour's rest in the middle of the day, this precaution should be taken. Where a house has an eastern or southern exposure, the rooms will be filled with light long before it is time to get up, and unless some means be taken to prevent, the morning rest will be more or less broken. Especially is this true in the case of little children, and it is well to accustom them from the first to sleep in the dark.

In the absence of outside blinds, there is no better way to secure this pleasant twilight, so conducive to rest, than by the use of inside shades made of the darkest green holland, and they have a great advantage over either inside or outside blinds, in that they are so easily adjusted. They supplement, but do not take the place of, the ordinary shades, but are set somewhat inside, so as not to interfere with them, and are rolled up and quite out of the way when not in use.

The best grades of this goods are durable, and with reasonable care will last for years, and from her own experience the writer can recommend them as a most desirable investment. If the bedroom windows have upper panels of stained glass, in which so many modern houses abound, the green shades should be set so as to cover these also, as an exceedingly unpleasant glare pours down from them, very trying to eyes which are trained to sleep in a darkness as complete as possible.—*Harper's Bazar.*

HOW WE LEARN.

Great truths are dearly bought. The common truth, Such as men give and take from day to day, Comes in the common walk of daily life, Blown by the careless wind across our way.

Bought in the market, at the current price, Bred of the smile, the jest, perchance the bowl, It tells no tales of daring or of worth, Nor pierces even the surface of a soul.

Great truths are greatly won. Not found by chance, Nor wafted on the breath of summer dream; But grasped in the great struggle of the soul, Hard buffeting with adverse wind and stream.

Not in the general mart, 'mid corn and wine; Not in the merchandise of gold and gems; Not in the world's gay hall of midnight mirth; Not 'mid the blaze of regal diadems;

But in the day of conflict, fear and grief, When the strong hand of God, put forth in might, Plows up the subsoil of the sullen heart And brings the imprisoned truth-seed to the light.

Wrung from the troubled spirit, in hard hours Of weakness, solitude, perchance of pain, Truth springs, like harvest from the well-plowed field, And the soul feels it has not wept in vain.

—*Horatius Bonar.*

PARSLEY AFTER ONIONS.

Onions should be eaten as a counterbalance, says the *New York Advertiser*. They are good for the stomach, the complexion and the nerves eaten either boiled or raw, but of course the unpleasant odor left on the breath after the indulgence in them is a barrier to their use to many people who would otherwise be able to take advantage of the good there is in them.

To overcome all this and give everyone a chance, an old remedy is suggested—parsley. To entirely destroy the bad odor of onions, eat a small sprig of this pretty green herb. There will be nothing in the breath or about the person at all suggestive of the odoriferous hulf five minutes after the parsley is eaten.

Any one can have parsley, for if he does not have access to that convenience known as a "soup bunch," it may be readily grown in any warm, sunny window. Soak the seeds about twenty-four hours before planting, in water that has had the chill removed, and after planting, water plentifully.

The little green heads will peep up over the earth in about fifteen days, and when the plants are well grown, your window has a pretty ornament in it.

VICTORIA AND HER LADIES.

The queen's thoughtfulness for others is quite wonderful; from the mistress of the robes down to a footman each is considered individually and their pleasures thought of. Abroad, the queen always arranges that the servants shall see the principal sights—galleries, etc. Years ago, in a foreign city, almost everyone had left the chateau except her majesty and the lady in waiting. The latter heard a tap at her door, and on saying "come in," to her astonishment the queen came in, bringing her a souvenir of their time together—a beautiful bracelet, with medallions of various places they had visited, behind portraits of various members of the royal family, surrounded, if I remember right, with jewels and an inscription: "To the —, from her affectionate but sorrowing friend, the queen of England."

THE DAKOTA HOT SPRINGS.

The Hot Springs of Arkansas have long been deservedly popular, for the reason that there has been no other place that has filled the requirements of both a health and a pleasure resort. This state of affairs has changed. The Hot Springs of South Dakota have, in recent years, been thrown open to the people, and because of their delightful situation and great curative qualities, are becoming more popular every day. Situated as this resort is, in the famous Black Hills, in the midst of beautiful mountain scenery, possessing that peculiar balsamic atmosphere which is in itself health giving, with waters that are pronounced by experts equal if not superior to those of any other mineral springs in the world, it will soon outrank any other like resort.

The hotel accommodations are of the best—hostelries with all the modern improvements and conveniences. The Evans Hotel, built of pink sandstone, with steam heat, electric lights, and every room an outside one, is easily the best-conducted house between Chicago and Denver. Fine bath-houses are connected with the best hotels. The rates of all the hotels are very reasonable. The surrounding country is more than picturesque—it is wonderful. The marvelous "Wind Cave;" the falls of Fall River; Battle Mountain, the old Indian battle-ground; Deadwood and the gold fields, and the famous Bad Lands are all within driving distance. The mammoth plunge bath at the Springs is noted as being one of the largest natatoriums in the world. So healthful are the surroundings, and so many the conveniences of this "Carlsbad of America," that it is rapidly becoming the "Mecca," not only for invalids, but for pleasure-seekers as well. The "Burlington Route" reaches there in a day and a half from St. Louis. Pullman sleepers and free chair cars on train No. 15 run to Lincoln, and from Lincoln free chair cars and sleepers run through to the Springs.

For further information, call on any "Burlington Route" Agent, or address D. O. Ives, G. P. and T. A., St. Louis, Mo.

THE ROMANCE OF COTTON.

At the beginning of the Christian era we find cotton in cultivation and in use in Persia, Arabia and Egypt, but whether indigenous to these countries, or conveyed westward during the centuries from India, we know not. Thereafter the westward spread was slow; but the plant is to be traced along the north coast of Africa to Morocco, which country it seems to have reached in the ninth century. The Moors took the plant, or seeds, to Spain, and it was being grown on the plains of Valencia in the tenth century, and by the thirteenth century it was, as we have said, growing in various parts of southern Europe.

Yet, although the Indian cloths were known to the Greeks and Romans a century or two before the Christian era, and although in the early centuries Arab traders brought to the Red sea ports Indian calicoes, which were distributed in Europe, we find cotton known in England only as material for candle-wicks down to the seventeenth century. At any rate, McCulloch is our authority for believing that the first mention of cotton being manufactured in England is in 1641; and that the "English cottons," of which earlier mention may be found, were really woollens.

And now we come to a very curious thing in the romance of cotton. Columbus discovered—or, as some say, rediscovered—America in 1492; and when he reached the islands of the Caribbean sea, the natives who came off to harter with him brought, among other things, cotton yarn and thread. Vasco da Gama, a few years later than Bartholomew Diaz, in 1497 rounded the Cape of Good Hope and reached the Zanzibar coast. There the natives were found to be clothed in cotton, just as Columbus found the natives of Cuba to be, as Pizarro found the Peruvians, and as Cortez found the Mexicans. These Europeans, proceeding from the Iberian peninsula east and west, found the peoples of the New World clothed with a material of which they knew nothing. Cotton was king in America, as in Asia, before it began even to be known in western Europe.

Not only that, but cotton must have been cultivated in Africa at the time when the mariners of Prince Henry the Navigator first made their way cautiously down the west coast. It is, at any rate, upward of four hundred years since cotton cloth was brought from the coast of Guinea and sold in London as a strange, barbaric product. Whether the plant traveled to the Bight of Benin from the land of Prester John, or from the land of the Pharaohs, or across from the Mozambique coast, where the Arabians are supposed to have had settlements and trading stations in prehistoric days, who can now say? But it is curious enough that when Africa was discovered by Europeans, the Dark Continent was actually producing both the fiber and the cloth for which African labor and English skill were afterward to be needed. The cotton plantations of southern America were worked by the negroes of Africa in order that the cotton-mills of Lancashire might be kept running. And yet both Africa and America made cotton cloth from the vegetable wool long before we knew of it otherwise than as a traveler's wonder.

Even in Asia, the natural habitat of the cotton-plant, the story has been curious. Thus, according to the records above named, cotton has been in use for clothing for three thousand years in India, and India borders upon the ancient and extensive empire of China. Yet cotton was not used in China for cloth-making until the coming of the Tartars, and has been cultivated and manufactured there for only about five hundred years.—*Chambers' Journal.*

THE QUARTIER LATIN.

Who has not heard of the quartier Latin? That is the ancient populous section on the left bank of the Seine, where the faculties are close huddled—though not contiguously, so as to form, as with us, a campus—over a tremendous area. A visit will always repay the traveler from beyond the sea, and not, perhaps, so much to catch in passing the favor of the indefinable atmosphere of study and license which haunts the Boulevard St. Michel and its byways; not so much for the buildings themselves, which are, he it avowed, rather plain and—excepting occasional remnants—disappointingly modern, but rather to try the effect of a sensation, certainly novel enough to the American, of the grandeur of a great truly national institution.

He will find there the schools of the five regular faculties of theology, law, medicine, letters and sciences; he will see hospitals, clinics, libraries and museums, spacious and numberless, containing collections for every "ism" under the sun; he will note with astonishment special schools, such as those recently established of comparative religion and living oriental language, and when he has done with all this, there is the College de France! Without counting the last-named body, the courses of these various schools are attended by a grand total of some eleven thousand students. That makes, if we will forget our quarrel about names, the University of Paris, facile princeps among the universities of the world. Vienna and Berlin, which follow in numbers and efficiency, have hardly more than half that number, and our largest American institutions barely reach three thousand. That may seem like a comparison by guide-book standards. Not at all. Happily, in universities at least, numbers may be taken as a sufficiently sure symptom of efficiency.—*Chicago Times.*

A TRIUMPH.

That is an affecting little story some one has just been relating, in the daily press, out of the daily routine of professional life. Let us give it larger telling. We quote from memory. Little Mary is a charity patient. The doctor, in one of his volunteer rounds among the poor, has come upon her case in Alleytown. She is a poor man's babe, and she is blind. The tired mother leans over the little crib with her love in her eyes, but hopelessness, too. Her little one will never see. The physician, with a sort of professional perfunctoriness, lifts the pink eyelids and adds:

"Has she been always so?"

"Yes, from her birth."

Just now he bends a little closer, then draws back and contracts his brow.

"It might be, it might be," he was saying, we may imagine, half to himself. "There is a chance; it is much like the case in Berlin." Then in sudden resolve he says aloud: "Bring her to my office to-morrow," naming the hour.

The thought of that baby kept with him all the day. He ventured to speak to his wife about it, and he did not often mention professional matters to her. She was all solicitude. Somehow the poor man's baby was making for itself a cradle in hearts not easily opened.

A surgical friend was with the doctor the next day in his office. Their usual charge would have been \$500, but they were strangely interested in this feeless case. When the woman came, with her babe wrapped up in a shawl, it was the doctor's own wife who took it, and at the sight of the little blind eyes, wept.

"We must apply the instruments," said the doctor. "Will you trust your child to me?"

Those wifely tears had won; yes, the mother would. An hour later the two women re-entered the room; the doctor was gently patting the little bandaged face.

"We have hopes," he said in answer to the questioning eyes. "I will be around in a few days."

When he called, the mother's face, bent over the little cot, was scarcely more anxious than his own. It had become a heart matter with him; he would almost have given his life to make those eyes to see. And yet, why? The mother-hand to which the baby fingers groped, their way, along the edge of the coverlet, were worn and chapped; the prospect from the tenement window was not pleasing; roofs and sheds, and yet above, God's skies.

"Oh! will my baby see?"

"We cannot tell yet," he broke in. "We must wait a little."

So he came from day to day. His friends were asking him often of the little child. The little face kept reappearing as he went about his work. At last the day of final experiment. There in the office with the oculist were the mother and doctor's wife and a friend or two. The physician made a long and silent examination; suddenly he crossed the room and drew down the blinds. Then before the little child he set a baby's plaything. "For little Mary," he said. But would she claim it? Slowly the bandages were removed. Then all gazed, as if they would look right into the little eyes, blinking there in the dim but abrupt light. Just then the child started, steadied itself and put out its hands toward the rattle. The next moment it raised its eyes to things a little further off, to other eyes that were all streaming with tears, to one face that was fairly eating the child up, and lifting its little arms, it cried, "Mama!" and was taken home to a sobbing breast. No one said much; no one could. After all, eyes were made for seeing, and light after darkness is like life after death.

WHO DISCOVERED FIRE?

For six thousand years, at least, man has pondered over the phenomena of fire. The mythological story of Prometheus has had as many interpretations as commentators. All investigators unite in declaring this myth of Prometheus to be the most ancient of the Greek fire legends.

Among the Greeks, the Persians, the Phenicians and the Egyptians there are several legends which refer to a time when man was without the comforts of fire.

Pliny states that fire was unknown among the tribes which immediately preceded the Pharaohs, and that at last, when a celebrated astronomer made them acquainted with its nature and use, they were wild with delight.

Pompanon, Mola, Plutarch and other ancient writers mention nations which, at the time when they wrote, knew nothing of the use of fire; or if they did, had but recently learned it.

Here the geologist brings his science to bear, and proves that prehistoric man knew all about the use of fire, and had many modes of producing it.

The Chinese theory of evolution includes the accidental discovery of fire by hairless apes.

Some large, hairless apes, so the story goes, were playing on the sea-shore with flints and crystals. Becoming tired, they sat down upon some dry seaweeds, and amused themselves by striking the pebbles together. All at once a spark lighted the seaweeds, and gave the apes a good scorching before they realized what had happened. The process of evolution had made them hairless, and this calamity burned their tails off. With this fire they cooked food, the eating of which quickly transformed them into regulation Chinamen.

The South sea islanders tell two different stories regarding the way they came into possession of fire.

According to one of these, a great whale was once washed ashore during a hurricane. The monster became entangled in a grove of tallow-trees (a species of evergreens whose branches easily ignite), and while gnashing his teeth in his impotent rage, struck off a spark which lighted the grove and consumed both trees and whale.

The other legend is to the effect that a great air-dragon (probably lightning) breathed on a tallow-tree and set its branches on fire.

They also have a tradition that the time will come when the dragon will return for the fire, and that no man will be able to withstand him and save the sacred spark except he be a person born with pink eyes, fair skin and white hair. For this reason the birth of an albino is always hailed with delight, and his or her person guarded with zealous care, so as to preserve life to its utmost limit.—*St. Louis Republic.*

IN THE VERNACULAR.

There is no more discerning a class than the sportsmen. The vernacular of the chase as they have invented it is oddly appropriate to its objects. There is a smack of the soil and a breath of the salt-water in the terms employed. Usually there is something quaintly appropriate to the habits of wild animals in the phrases with which they are lumped together. Here is a list which gives very adequate suggestion of the vernacular of the open season:

A covey of partridges.
A hide of pheasants.
A whisp of snipe.
A flight of doves or swallows.
A muster of peacocks.
A siege of herons.
A building of rooks.
A brood of grouse.
A plump of wild fowl.
A stand of plovers.
A watch of nightingales.
A clattering of doughs.
A flock of geese.
A herd or hunch of cattle.
A bevy of quails.
A cast of hawks.
A trip of dottrel.
A swarm of bees.
A school of whales.
A school of herrings.
A herd of swine.
A skulk of foxes.
A pack of wolves.
A drove of oxen.
A sounder of hogs.
A troop of monkeys.
A pride of lions.
A sleuth of bears.
A gang of elks.

THE INVENTOR OF LUCIFER MATCHES.

"The inventor of phosphorus matches," says *The Railway Review*, March 30th, "is stated to have been a Hungarian named Janos Irinyi, who was in 1835 a student at the Polytechnic school in Vienna. While attending the course of lectures on chemistry, he was much impressed by the reaction produced on rubbing together peroxid of lead and sulphur, and was struck with the idea that phosphorus might be used with much more advantage than sulphur. For several days thereafter he was not to be seen at the college, and a friend going to his rooms to inquire for him, found the door locked, and upon giving his name, was rebuffed by the impertinent answer from within, 'Geh' weg, Schwab, ich mach' eiue erfindung'—Go away, Schwab, I am making a discovery.' When next he appeared in public he had his pockets full of matches, all of which ignited when struck on the wall. He had prepared them by melting phosphorus in a concentrated solution of glue and mixing in peroxid of lead, the composition then being applied to slivers of wood previously dipped in molten sulphur. He sold the invention for about \$3,500 to a merchant named Romer, who is often accredited with the honor of making it, but this story about Irinyi is told by a college friend familiar with the facts. Irinyi himself is said to be still living in the south of Hungary."

GOOD ADVICE.

Some good person has said: "Do not make your mind sponges, saturated with the putrid waters of the goose-pond of gossip. Hear as little as you can to the prejudice of others; believe nothing of the kind, unless you are forced to believe it; never circulate or approve of those who circulate loose reports; moderate, as far as you can, the censure of others; always believe that if the other side were heard, a very different account would be given of the matter."

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MY BABY'S HAND.

What of all nature's wonders can excel,
For perfect curves and finish exquisite,
A little marvel of an ocean shell
With its soft tints of pink and pearly white?

And in all nature where is one who knows
Aught else that has a wondrous softness
Such

As has the petals of a summer rose,
Fragrant to smell, and velvet to the touch?

I know of one thing which it seems to me
Is far more fair, more wonderfully planned
Than velvet rose or shell from deep blue sea,
When the small curves and dimples sweet
I see,

And kiss, and clasp, and hold up close to me—
The warm, soft wonder of my baby's hand.

—E. B. McGilvary, in *S. S. Times.*

SOME BRIEF NOTES ABOUT BIRDS.

Wild birds do not sing more than eight or ten weeks in the year.

It is estimated that one crow will destroy 700,000 insects every year.

There are sixty-five species of humming-birds enumerated by ornithologists.

The birds of the south polar regions migrate north on the approach of winter.

The wren often makes a dozen nests, leaving all but one unfinished and unused.

The eyes of birds that fly by night are generally about double the size of day-birds.

No wild female bird ever sings during the period of incubation, and rarely at other times.

Over 27,000 pounds weight of edible birds' nests are annually shipped from Java to China.

The stork has been known to perish in the flames of a burning house rather than to desert her young.

NO ROLLING-STONE.

"So, you're up for hog-stealing again," said the justice.

"Yes, suh, de same thing. Some er my people want me ter go in de cattle business, but I always sticks ter it dat a man is better off follerin' what he knows!"—*Atlanta Constitution.*

HEROD'S BUST.

A bust of Herod the Great, believed to be authentic, was recently discovered at Jerusalem. It has been bought by the Russian government for the Hermitage Museum at St. Petersburg.



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Our Household.

SUCCOTASH.

Bean-time and corn-time 'll soon be here,
Ef it ever gets 'round to the fall of the year;
Then jist get away with all yer trash—
All I want is succotash.

Tomatoes is good—they air, be gosh—
'Nd so's cucumbers and punkens and squash;
But the dish 'at beats 'm all to smash
Is the old-fashioned one—jes' succotash.
Some like reddishes, beets and peas,
And lettus and passnips and things like these,
And garlic and fagens mixed in hash,
But I stick up for succotash.

'Nd some sez, "Lam chops or beefsteak rair,"
But such as them will not compare,
Ner fill up the hole by yer mustash,
As well as a mess of succotash.
And some likes ham and breakfast bacon,
Und custard pies that ain't wuth makin',
And 'buse me kaise they say I'm rash
In bein' a fool 'bout succotash.

But lots o' fellers—well, all nigh, 'bout—
'Ll growl and kick, 'n' turn their snout
Up, and rair and pitch 'n' cut 'n' slash,
Ef you give 'em a dish o' succotash.
They's some 'at don't know how to make it—
You don't want to fry it, nor roast it nor
bake it.

But it's good put nigh any way to take it;
So good you bet I'll not forsake it.
The way to make it's to make it right,
'Nd then it's a mess plum out o' sight;
'Nd now while I write my appetite
Jes' rairs right up for anuther bite.

The best time to make it's 'fore the corn's too
hard,

Then grease it with butter inste'd o' lard;
Then put in the milk and pepper and salt,
Then bile and stir without a halt
'Til it all swells up 'nd 's good 'n' dun,
And the juice in the pot's too thick to run;
Get out o' the way 'fore I get my gun,
I'll hev it all er I won't hev none.

So I say:

Bean-time and corn-time 'll soon be here,
Ef it ever gets 'round to the fall of the year;
Then jist get away with all yer trash—
All I want's more succotash.

—James M. Dye, in *St. Louis Chronicle*.

HOME TOPICS.

CHEAP CUTS OF BEEF.—Now that beef is so high, it is well to know how to prepare savory dishes from the cheaper cuts of beef. A piece from the shoulder or neck will be found tender and of good flavor if cooked as follows: Cut a slice of fat salt pork and put it into an iron pot and let it fry, turning it until brown on both sides. Have your piece of beef washed, trimmed of any bloody parts and skewered or tied into good shape. Put it into the hot fat in the pot and turn it until it is seared over on all sides, but do not stick a fork into it. Add a teacupful of boiling water, cover the pot closely and set it where it will cook very slowly. Let it cook in this way four hours, turning occasionally and adding a little



TABLE-COVER.

boiling water from time to time as it cooks on. Now season it with salt and pepper, let it cook a little faster, turning it once or twice that it may season nicely. When the water all cooks off, turn it and let it brown a little; after which, if not ready to serve, add a little hot water and set it back where it will only keep hot. When ready to serve dinner, take the meat out, add a tablespoonful of browned flour, stir it smooth, and then add milk to thin the gravy to the proper consistency, let it boil up once and it is done.

Many people use raw flour in making

gravies, but if they will once try browned flour, they will like it much better. One can brown a pint or so of flour at a time and keep it in a glass or tin can with a tight cover, and it will always be ready for gravy or for thickening soups, to many of which it is quite an improvement.

HAMBURG STEAKS.—Two pounds of lean beef from the round, chopped very fine. Mince one small onion and four sprigs of parsley and add to the beef, with a tablespoonful of butter, a teaspoonful of salt, a fourth of a teaspoonful of pepper, two well-beaten eggs and half a teacupful of very fine, dry bread crumbs or cracker crumbs. Mix all well, then take it out on a board sprinkled with fine crumbs, sprinkle more over the meat and roll it into a sheet about an inch thick. With a sharp knife cut the sheet into neat squares, and fry them in a little butter until a nice brown.

Hamburg steaks are nice served with tomato sauce, made by sifting a pint of stewed tomatoes, seasoning with butter, pepper and salt, and thickening with a teaspoonful of corn-starch. Have this sauce boiling hot, and pour it over the steaks just before sending them to the table.

RUBBER CUSHIONS.—Among the many and various cushions which are now seen in every nook and corner, none are more useful or add more to the comfort of an invalid than a rubber cushion. These cushions can be had in different sizes and shapes, and when inflated are not easily distinguishable from the ordinary stuffed cushion; but they have the advantage over those of never looking crushed or tumbled as a down or feather pillow often does, and by yielding easily to the slightest movement, they are far more restful than an ordinary cushion would be. Covers should be made for these cushions, of the same material that would be used for any others, and may be as plain or elaborate in adornment as the fancy may dictate. For a traveler, a rubber cushion will fill a place nothing else can, and be always at hand to relieve a tired back or aching shoulder. For this purpose, select a cushion about ten by twelve inches in size, and make a black silk or satin bag, with ribbon draw-strings, into which it may be slipped. It will then have the appearance of only an ordinary ladies' shopping-bag.

MAIDA McL.

NEEDLEWORK.

The long, summer-day vacation-time and visiting-time is the time to get done many of the pretty novelties that make home beautiful.

Working on linen with silk or cotton is becoming more and more popular. It is teaching all of our girls the importance of careful and exquisite needlework, for no one can work in the tangling, fuzzy silks without acquiring a delicateness of handling that such work brings. It necessitates keeping the hands in good order. Many

stamped, fifty cents; eight bolts of novelty braid at five cents per bolt; one dozen skeins of twisted silk, fifty cents; four and one half yards of fringe at twenty-five cents a yard. When done, it is an article you can launder whenever it is soiled, and will last for years.

For workers in linen, the frame for a photograph is a very pretty conception. The flowers are worked in pink filo in French knots, the leaves in the gray-greens and the ribbon in stem-stitch in white. The circle shows where the picture is to

for crab-apples; the grapes I sold for sugar to put up the other fruits, taking care to buy it in quantities, fifty pounds at a time, when it was very cheap. Still, many times there was too much; this necessitated a great outlay in jars.

In these days of modern improvements, much fruit is just as well bought already canned. I would never bother with tomatoes or peaches, unless I had them on my own place and wanted to save them. Jams, jellies and pickles are best home-made, but I do not think them much cheaper, if any,



LINEN PICTURE-FRAME.

come. It must be worked and then laundered before taking it to the framer, who must work it up in passe-partout, with white binding. To launder it, wash it carefully in warm soap-suds made from good soap, rinse in clear water. Do not put any starch in it. While wet, spread it out on a thick flannel covered with clean muslin. Fix it perfectly straight, then place another cloth over it; iron until nearly dry, then remove the cloth and finish it. When ironed perfectly smooth, lay on something flat to get entirely dry. Most framers charge from thirty-five to seventy-five cents for mounting them. It is a very delicate present to a friend, containing your picture.

The magazine-cover illustrated is of brown art linen, and the scheme can be carried out either in embroidery or painting in water-colors. It will be found convenient for keeping the monthly magazine in order for binding. If one wants this particularly nice, after the linen is embroidered and pressed, it can be taken to the bindery and mounted with leather back and edges, and lined with silk. If plain, just bring it inside the cover and lace it with the soft silk laces, to keep it in place. A pattern can first be made to fit the magazine it is intended for.

LOUISE LONG CHRISTIE.

PUTTING UP FRUIT.

Young housekeepers make the mistake often of putting up too much fruit. In my early housekeeping days I know I often overworked in fruit-time, while we frequently had more fruit put up than we could possibly use.

I learned, after awhile, wisdom. The surplus of pears I traded with my neighbors

than to buy them. It costs fifty-five cents for a quart jar of raspberries just moderately jammed, and you can buy it as cheap.

For a small family, half a dozen of each of the fruits as they come is abundant; jellies, a dozen. Still, even with those it is best not to have too many.

A lady writes to ask me about pear jelly. Well, I would never waste time with that, as there is not acidity enough in pears to make a good jelly, and there are so many better things. Rhubarb and apples together make a much better jelly.

A nice relish for meat is spiced gooseberry sauce. Of this we often put up a dozen tumblerfuls. To every five quarts of berries put four pounds of sugar, one pint of vinegar, two tablespoonfuls each of cloves, cinnamon and allspice. Tie the spices in muslin, and put on to cook in the vinegar. When hot, add the sugar and berries. Cook slowly one hour; put into tumblers and seal like jelly.

Wild crab-apples make a delightful jelly; it is so delicate in color. I have also used them for sweet pickles.

A good way to do is to make out a list at the beginning of the season, and live up to it if possible, beginning with strawberries and ending with tomato and pumpkin butter.

I was amused at a friend who ate heartily and enjoyed the "preserved figs" I passed him one day, but refused positively, another day, the "preserved tomatoes," which were the same little yellow things he enjoyed as figs. So names of things affect the appetite, sometimes.

Above all, let me advise the young housekeeper not to try to do too much. There is no need of learning so late in life how "not to do things;" learn while you are young. Health and strength are above all, and the poor Indian was right when he said, "Poor American women—too much house!"

CHRISTIE IRVING.

GREAT CAESAR!

Had to "Grin and Bear It" when he had a pain. You can grin and banish it at once by using PERRY DAVIS' Pain Killer

Pain Killer

Sold and used everywhere. A whole medicine chest by itself. Kills every form of external or internal pain. Dose—A teaspoonful in half glass of water or milk (warm if convenient).



CROCHETED LACE—CORNER TURNED.

ABBREVIATIONS:—St, stitch; ch, chain; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; h d c, half double crochet; sk, skip.

Make a chain of 25 st, turn.

First row—Sk 11 st, 1 s c in next, * ch 4, sk 4, s c in next, * repeat once; ch 4, sk 4, h d c in next; turn.

Second row—Ch 6, 1 s c in first s c, ch 9, sk 9, s c in s c, ch 8, s c in loop of 11 st, ch 2; turn.

Third row—13 d c under 8 ch, 4 ch; 1 s c in s c, ch 4, 1 s c in center of 9 ch, ch 4, 1 s c in next s c, ch 4, h d c in fifth st of 6 ch; turn.

Fourth row—Ch 12; sk the 2 ch and s c, 1 s c in next s c, ch 9, d c in first d c of scallop, * ch 1, sk 1, d c in next d c; * repeat six times.

Fifth row—Ch 10, 1 s c in first st of ch, 1 s c in next double, 8 h d c under ch, * ch 8, s c under next ch 1; s c in next d c, 8 h d c in ch 8, * repeat 4 times, ch 3, sl st in fourth h d c of last bar; ch 3, 1 d c in last of 8 d c, ch 4, 1 s c in center of 9 ch, ch 4, s c in s c, ch 4, s c in fifth st of ch, ch 4, s c in fifth st following; turn.

Sixth row—Ch 6, 1 s c in s c, ch 9, sk 1 s c, 1 s c in next s c, ch 4, d c in d c, ch 3, 1 s c in ch at end of first bar, * ch 5, s c under ch between bars, * repeat five times; turn.

Seventh row—1 s c under ch, * ch 6, s c in second st of 6 ch (ch 5, s c in same st as first), repeat once. This makes a clover-leaf cluster of picots. Ch 2, s c under next ch 5, * repeat five times, ch 3, d c in d c, ch 6, s c in s c, ch 4, s c in center of 9 ch, ch 4, s c in s c, ch 4, d c in second of 6 ch; turn.

Eighth row—Ch 12, sk ch and first s c, 1 s c in next s c, ch 9, s c in d c; turn.

Ninth row—Ch 8, s c in center of 9 ch, ch 4, s c in s c, ch 4, s c in fifth st from hook, ch 4, h d c in fifth st following; turn.

Tenth row—Ch 6, s c in s c, ch 9, sk ch and first s c, 1 s c in next s c, ch 4, d c in fifth of 8 ch, ch 8, s c in first picot of cluster, ch 2, s c in center picot; turn.

Repeat from the third row for the length desired between corners, then work as follows from the tenth row:

ch 4, d c in first of 9 ch, 3 ch, s c in ch before last bar, * 5 ch, s c in ch between bars, * repeat five times; turn.

Fifteenth row—Ch 3, s c under 5 ch, make picots as described, making an extra group after the sixth is made; ch 3, s c under ch 3, ch 3, d c in d c; turn.

Sixteenth row—Ch 10, s c in first picot of second cluster, ch 2, s c in center picot, ch 1; turn.

Seventeenth row—23 d c under 10 ch, 4 ch, s c in next s c; turn.

Eighteenth row—Ch 5, d c in d c, ch 1, pass 1 d c, d c in next, * repeat ten times.

Nineteenth row—Make ten half bars, s c in d c, ch 9, s c in s c, ch 4, s c in s c; turn.

Twentieth row—Ch 9, s c in center of 9 ch, ch 4, s c in st next last bar, * ch 5, s c between bars, * repeat nine times; ch 4, s c in center picot of next cluster, ch 4; turn.

Twenty-first row—S c in s c, work ten clusters of picots; ch 7, s c in s c, ch 4, s c in center of 9 ch, ch 4, s c in s c, ch 4, h d c in fifth of following ch; turn.

Twenty-second row—Ch 12, s c in center of 9 ch, ch 9, s c in second of 7 ch; turn.

Twenty-third row—Ch 8, s c in center of 9 ch, ch 4, s c in s c, ch 4, sk 4, s c in next, ch 4, sk 4, h d c in next; turn.

Twenty-fourth row—Ch 6, s c in s c, ch 9, sk 9, s c in next, ch 4, d c in fifth of 8 ch, ch 8, s c in first picot, ch 2, s c in next picot; turn.

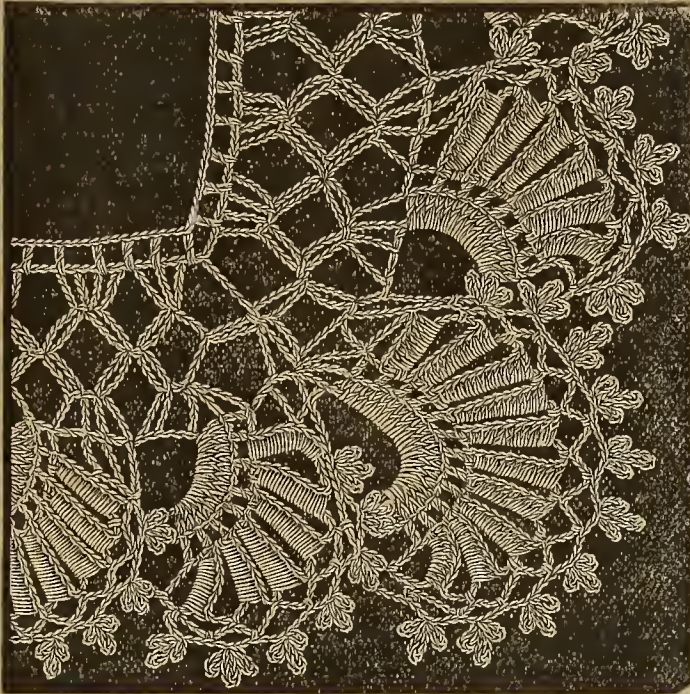
Twenty-fifth to thirtieth rows—Begin with the third row and work to ninth row to finish scallop.

Repeat from twenty-third row for the length required; then begin a corner, working from ninth row.

"SCRAPS."

I can imagine I hear some of the "Household" sisters exclaim, "What a queer subject to write upon!" Yet how much of the financial success and the pleasure of the home depends upon economy in household matters.

My subject was suggested by a remark of a friend at whose house I spent a few days.



CROCHETED LACE—CORNER TURNED.

We were old acquaintances, and she felt a liberty with me that she would not otherwise have felt. As she was setting the table she said, "You see, we eat up all the scraps." My attention being thus drawn toward the table I noticed, besides the freshly cooked food, that there was a saucer of cold peas, one of canned corn, and still another of oatmeal. There was no meal partaken of without the presence of these scraps.

Now, my friend was desirous of practicing economy, but had yet to learn that many attractive dishes can be made from the remnants of meals. A person's appetite is enhanced or hindered by the appearance of the table. The "scraps" appearing meal after meal is non-appetizing.

Many dainty dishes can be made from scraps. Take, for instance, rice. It is first put upon the table boiled, and many times there is a saucerful left. Instead of putting it upon the table again, you can make a pudding for dinner, muffins, pancakes or fritters for breakfast. There are ways of using rice too numerous to mention. The same idea can be carried out in other things. Cook-books give many valuable hints in these matters.

I do not think we women who live on the farm take as much pride in our tables as we ought. If we can make dainty dishes of the scraps from the table, and make the unsuspecting men believe they are eating something new, let us do it. I consider such deception harmless. The cost of the table will not be increased, and the effect will be more pleasing.

M. F. M.

FASHION NOTES.

Blouses have determined to stay with us for some time to come, and constant variations are brought out for evening wear. The nicest blouses for the theater and small dinner parties are made of lace draped over a silk waistband, and with draped silk bretelles coming from the shoulders. Young ladies may adopt such a blouse with good success, as it is cut rather low, without collar, at the neck.

A charming way to adorn the fashionable three box-plaits on the up-to-date blouse is an applique of jet stars. Long jet fringes hanging from jet appliques on the shoulders form a graceful finish.

A charming flower ruffle can be made of loose clusters of Parma and Russian violets sewn upon a piece of ribbon, with an ivory lace jabot in front and rosettes to conceal the fastening at the back. In this way, floral bargains from the sales can be employed with success, and moreover, justify their purchase.

Ready-made stock collars of Dresden ribbon drawn in folds around the neck and tied in a square bow at the back, catch the popular fancy.

Rarely are high heels seen in the street. The military heel for smart occasions and a low, wide heel for walking reign supreme in the costumes of the best-dressed women.

MICHIGAN'S BENEFACTOR.

AN OFT REPEATED STORY OF TRUE PHILANTHROPY—WHAT CHAS. H. HACKLEY HAS DONE FOR WESTERN MICHIGAN.

(From Grand Rapids, Mich., Evening Press.)

The most beautiful spot in all this city is inseparably associated with the name of Hackley. Chas. H. Hackley has been in the lumber business here continuously since 1856, and in that time has amassed a fortune which gives him a rating among the wealthy men of the nation. But with wealth there did not come that tightening of the purse strings which is generally a marked characteristic of wealthy men.

It is no wonder then that the name of Charles H. Hackley is known at home and abroad. His munificence to Muskegon alone represents an outlay of nearly half a million. For the past twenty years he has been a constant sufferer from neuralgia and rheumatism, also numbness of the lower limbs, so much so that it has seriously interfered with his pleasure in life. For some time past his friends have noticed that he has seemed to grow young again and to have recovered the health which he had in youth.

To a reporter for the Press Mr. Hackley explained the secret of this transformation. "I have suffered for over 20 years," he said, "with pains in my lower limbs so severely that the only relief I could get at night was by putting cold water compresses on my limbs. I was bothered more at night than in the day time. The neuralgic and rheumatic pains in my limbs, which had been growing in intensity for years, finally became chronic. I made three trips to the Hot Springs with only partial relief, and then fell back to my original state. I couldn't sit still and my sufferings began to make life look very blue. Two years ago last September I noticed an account of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and what they had done for others, and some cases so nearly resembled mine that I was interested, so I wrote to one who had given a testimonial, an eminent professor of music in Canada. The reply I received was even stronger than the printed testimonial and it gave me faith in the medicine.

"I began taking the pills and found them to be all that the professor had told me they would be. It was two or three months before I experienced any perceptible betterment of my condition. My disease was of such long standing that I did not expect speedy recovery and was thankful even to be relieved. I progressed rapidly, however, towards recovery and for the last six months have felt myself a perfectly well man. I have recommended the pills to many people and am only too glad to assist others to health through the medium of this wonderful medicine. I cannot say too much for what it has done for me."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are for sale by all druggists, or may be had by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., for 50 cents per box, or six boxes for \$2.50.

STRAWBERRY SPONGE-CAKE.

Take the weight of six eggs in sugar and the weight of three in flour. Separate the eggs; put the whites in a bowl and the yolks in a large vessel. Add to the yolks the sugar, which must be powdered, and beat until very light. Beat the whites to a stiff froth; add them to the yolks. Slowly sift in the flour, to which is added a teaspoonful of baking-powder. Turn into a well-greased, large, shallow pan, and bake in a quick oven fifteen or twenty minutes. Have ready a filling made as follows: Put half a pint of milk in a farina-boiler to boil. Put one and one half tablespoonfuls of corn-starch, two tablespoonfuls of cold water, two tablespoonfuls of sugar and the yolks of three eggs into a vessel, and with an egg-beater beat quickly until it is thoroughly mixed; then stir into the boiling milk and stir until it thickens; then turn out to cool. This should be made before the cake. When the cake is done, turn it carefully from the pan, bottom upward, and spread it while warm with the filling. Cut the cake into halves; stand over one half, thickly and regularly, large strawberries. Now fold over this the other half, thus having two layers of cake, with filling and strawberries between. Put one cupful of powdered sugar into a bowl; beat one cupful of strawberries with an egg-beater until liquid, and strain through a sieve; add sufficient of this liquid to the sugar to moisten, spread it on top of the cake, and stand aside to harden.



MAGAZINE-COVER.

Eleventh row—13 d c under 8 ch, ch 4, s c in s c.

Twelfth row—Ch 5, 8 d c over 13 d c, 1 ch between.

Thirteenth row—Make six bars of h d c as in other scallops, fastening fourth of first 10 ch to first picot; ch 3, s c in fourth h d c, ch 3, d c in d c, ch 9, s c in center 9 ch; turn.

Fourteenth row—Ch 4, s c in center 9 ch,

For an edge to sew on by, fasten thread in first st of straight edge, ch 5, * sk 2, d c in next, ch 2, * repeat to within 3 st of corner, then omit the 2 ch; d c in corner st, sk 3 on other side of corner, d c in next.

ALICE MOORELL.

"THE TREE IS KNOWN BY THE FRUIT IT BEARS."—And so Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant rests in the confidence of the public to-day as a Lung remedy, because, after OVER SIXTY YEARS constant use, it is known to be fully worthy of that confidence.

Our Household.

THE HANDIEST THING IN THE KITCHEN.

AT a conference of practical housekeepers, the subject for discussion was, "The handiest thing in the kitchen." So many conveniences were mentioned, that I am constrained to make a record of them and send to the FARM AND FIRESIDE for the benefit of its many housekeepers; for we all need all the conveniences and labor-saving devices possible, and she who tells her neighbor of some handy thing that will make lighter and more pleasant the household tasks, confers upon her a priceless favor.

The first lady to speak, said: "I believe the handiest thing in my kitchen is a pound-size baking-powder can, with holes punched in the side about half way up, to use instead of a chopping-knife. In warming potatoes, I put them into the pan whole and chop and stir with the can as they warm, and they are fine, and so little trouble. When cooking cabbage, I slice it coarsely with a knife, then chop with the can as it cooks. When making chopped pickles, I prefer the can to a single-bladed chopping-knife."

"The handiest thing in my kitchen," said another, "is my saw bread-knife. We have all seen a loaf haggled and cut in chunks, but to cut it with a saw-knife is a poem. The slices may be as thin as paste-board and as smooth as marble."

The next speaker was a young lady, but being the elder daughter, was well versed in housekeeping. She said: "The handiest thing in our kitchen is only a table made from the frame of a worn-out sewing-machine, with a pine top four feet long and two feet wide; but if one has a large family and little room, she will understand how handy it is. A drawer is fitted in under it, and an oil-cloth protects the top. It stands between cupboard and stove, and is equally easy to reach from either. For ironing-table, mixing-stand, dish-washing or any other kind of work, it is almost indispensable, yet takes less room than an ordinary table, and is easily moved when mopping floors, etc., as the casters that moved the machine still keep their place."

Why couldn't all kitchen or other work tables be fitted with casters?

A lady who had just completed a new house and furnished it throughout in the most practical way, remarked: "The handiest things in our kitchen are cupboards. Having needed a place for odds and ends, we built a cupboard that fitted into one corner behind a door, from floor to ceiling. In the upper shelves are lantern, kerosene-can, stove and shoe blacking and brushes, nails and hammer, soap, etc. Below are rubbers and overshoes, mittens, etc. Another is fastened to the wall, high enough for the work-table to slip under it. The top shelf is partitioned, one side holding kitchen tools; the other, bundles of clean, white rags and cloths for cleaning lamps, etc. Two shelves below hold vegetable-dishes, tea and coffee pots and canisters, salt, pepper and all the things needed in cooking. The table beneath holds the water-pail, and all are but a step from the stove, saving many steps during the day. I once saw a good substitute for cupboards made from a double row of soap-boxes reaching from floor to ceiling, with curtains of dark calico. A cupboard in the cellar, that shuts up securely from mice, is a good thing; and if the doors are of wire netting to admit air, so much the better."

Among the other handy things mentioned were asbestos cooking-mats, to be put under anything cooking that is likely to burn, to prevent them from scorching. They cost from ten to twenty cents each.

A coil of heavy, smooth fence-wire, made to fit inside a large granite kettle, on which to set two fruit-cans with the tops melted off, and cook in them as in a double boiler, was another thing mentioned, and almost every lady present expressed a desire to have one made, so that rice, oatmeal and all such things could be cooked without stirring or fear of scorching.

Two or three ladies agreed that a steamer was the handiest thing in a kitchen. One said: "In the summer-time I put a pot of boiling water over my little oil-stove, and with the steamer set over it I cook an entire meal. For instance, I put green beans in the pot; in the steamer I lay enough pared potatoes and ears of green corn for a dinner for four people; also a quart tin pail with a custard or corn-starch pudding, or something of that kind,

for dessert. I cover the steamer closely, and cook a whole meal with only the fuel that would otherwise cook but one article, and we all like the flavor of things that have been steamed better than when cooked in any other way. Indeed, one never knows how good green corn really is until they have steamed it. Neither will they believe how much a large steamer will hold until they have tried."

"The handiest thing in my kitchen," says Christie Irving, "is my dish-drauer. It does away with wiping at least the plates, saucers and cups. Wash them in good hot water with a very little white soap, pile them in the drainer and rinse with clear, hot water and let them stand until needed. The drainer sets in a large, square meat-pan, at the end of a long table like the one described in this article. It has saved its cost in many ways, and I would not like to give it up. The dishes always shine, and are free from lint."

A sweet little girl who was present timidly spoke up, saying, "I fink 'at 'e handiest thing would be a 'little girl to fill 'e tea-kettle, set and unset 'e table and wipe 'e dishes. Don't 'oo, mama?"

When the laughter that followed this naive remark had subsided, one of the husbands, who had called to take his wife home, remarked that he thought that about the handiest thing that could be found was a man to get wood and kindlings, fill the water-pail, make the fires and be generally useful, especially at the table. And the entire company agreed that whether they were the handiest things or not, both the children and the men were nice to have in the kitchen, and were ever welcome.

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERTS.

IT REALLY DOES SEEM A PITY.

"Pity 'tis, 'tis true," and no mistake, that some women have not one particle of management in their make-up. They do everything in the most difficult manner possible, thereby taking ten steps where one would suffice.

If they have an especially hard day's work to do, instead of rising betimes, and getting an early start, they appear to court Morpheus for an extra half-hour or so that particular morning. If they expect to have vegetables for breakfast, they never think to prepare them the night before. If they desire to have warmed-over potatoes for supper, they invariably forget to boil a sufficient quantity at noon, but will build up an extra fire in the afternoon for this especial purpose. These women always wash on Monday, because—well, because they always have, and their mothers and grandmothers have done the same before them. Their larder is empty, their soiled clothing scattered all over the house, and yet they must wash. They admit that it would be better to let the clothes soak over night, but say that they do not like to gather them up on the Sabbath day. Little is left for breakfast and nothing planned for dinner. Everything is topsy-turvy, hence the washing is only fairly begun when it might have been almost completed. They have not time or thought to put on dinner, which is consequently the proverbial wash-day dinner—unpalatable and unsatisfying.

It must have been a young man who had a vivid remembrance of these wash-day dinners who answered his father as follows, when asked if his affianced knew aught of housekeeping:

"Oh, no, she doesn't know a thing about it, jolly! I don't believe she'll clean house once in ten years, or wash once in three months."

Why can't people learn to have everything ready for a hard day's work the evening before? How easy it is to have the clothes gathered together, sorted, and put to soak if one desires. Not only that, but the breakfast can be partially prepared also. There is no reason in the world why "wash-day dinner" should not be the best of the week. There are so many delicious dishes that can be prepared in a very few minutes and baked in the oven, which will necessarily be heated while the clothes are being boiled. And certainly if one "manages"—with all the excellent washing-machines and fluids which are to be had at the present time—there is no need of allowing the family wash to drag along until after the noon hour. By planning and contriving, the work can be completed and a very appetizing dinner prepared by one o'clock. Then after dinner will come the needed rest, and the evening can be devoted to light work and recreation.

Another reason why many fail to accomplish what they desire in one day, is be-

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

cause they appear utterly incapable of sticking to any one thing until it is finished. They are frequently stopping their work. I do not mean on account of necessary interruptions, but unnecessary ones—jumping from one thing to another without rhyme or reason.

It is wonderful what a vast amount of work can be gotten out of the way by conscientiously taking up one thing at a time, and without hurry or worry, sticking at it until it is finished, then "laying hold" of the next thing to be done, and keeping at it until it is "non est," as the Sophomore said. How does that little verse go that we used to speak in school many, many, many (I am not gray-headed yet, however) years ago?

One thing at a time
And that done well,
Is a very good thing,
As I have heard tell.

There are some women, though, who appear to have a knack of working deftly and speedily when they once make up their minds as to what had best be done at a certain time, but who do not appear to decide in a judicious manner which should be done first, consequently "they walk around themselves" many times a day. Others do not appear to discriminate between major duties and minor details. "It really does seem a pity."

ELLA BARTLETT SIMMONS.

REFOOTING AND DARNING STOCKINGS.

The other day the old stocking-bag came off from the nail and its contents were overhauled. All that were worth it were darned, and the others refooted.

The pattern for refooting was cut from a stocking-foot, and made all in one piece, admitting of but two seams—one at the heel and the other running from the toe to the instep. These were taken on the right side and neatly felled, thus avoiding any unpleasant sensation to the foot.

If hose is seasonably darned, the refooting will not need to take place for a long time. Each girl in the family should be taught to darn her own hose each week. Stress on the old adage, "A stitch in time saves nine," will be worth much to her if she applies it. If she be given her own box of darning cotton, yarns and silks, and suitable needles, it will be an encouragement.

The Asiatic dyes in darning-silks will be found much more satisfactory than the cotton or wool, as it is much softer and makes a smoother darn, and has the advantage of keeping its color. This darning-silk comes in all colors, and is also very nice for darning underwear.

A very good way to save work and insure the wearing quality of stockings is to run the heels before they are worn.

MARY D. SIBLEY.

ABBREVIATIONS OF KNITTING.

K means knit plain; p, purl or seam; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; o, over; to, throw thread over; p 2 tog, purl two together; to and tog, together; b, bind; sl, slip; t, twice; st, stitch; tw-st, twist-stitch; fag, faggot; * and **, repeat the number of times that is said to be repeated from * (star) and ** (double star).

Seam—Same as knitting, only knit backward.

Narrow—Same as knitting two together. Over—Throw thread over before inserting the needle.

Purl 2 tog—Same as narrowing, only purl two together backward.

Slip and bind—Slip off first stitch without knitting, and knit the second st; then pass the slipped stitch over the one just knit, knit the third st and repeat.

Faggot—Generally used to save words; such as, (oo, p 2 tog) over twice, purl two together.

Ribs—Twice knit across plain is called one rib.

Mexican stitch—Knit 1, purl 1, repeat across the work the same. When going back, knit the same stitch you knit before and purl the next.

Brioche stitch—Works in threes. * Make one, knit 1, slip 1, knit 2 together (o, sl 1, n) *. Repeat from * to * across the row.

Ribbed stitch—Knit 2, purl 2, repeat across. When going back, purl the two that were knit before and knit the next two; then repeat as before.

Garner-stitch—Plain knitting, back and forth; sometimes called purls and sometimes called ribs.

Purls—Twice knit across plain is called one purl.

Twist-stitch—Knit 4, purl 2, knit 2, purl 2, knit 4, purl 2, knit 2, purl 2, knit 4, and so on. Knit six times around in this way; then take a darning-needle, and where there are four stitches knit plain, take the first two off and knit what were called the third and fourth stitches for the first and second stitches. Then slip from the darning-needle onto the needle and knit the first stitch for the third stitch, and second for the fourth stitch. Purl 2 and knit 2, and so on. Knit once around the work in this way; then knit six times around before changing again.

ELLA MCCOWEN.

Pears'

Pears' soap cleanses the outside of the skin immediately, dissolves the soluble part and washes it off immediately. It is friendly with life; it does not touch, till life lets go. It is kind to the living tissue.

Delicate Cake
Easily removed without breaking. Perfection Tins require no greasing. 10 styles, round, square and oblong. 2 layer tins by mail 30c. Circulars Free. Agents Wanted. Richardson Mfg. Co., 9 St., Bath, N. I.

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FREE. SUPERB FORM, LOVELY COMPLEXION, PERFECT HEALTH. These are my portraits, and on account of the fraudulent air-pumps, "wafers," etc., offered for development, I will tell any lady FREE what I used to secure these changes. **HEALTH** (cure of that "tired" feeling and all female diseases) Superb FORM, Brilliant EYES and perfectly Pure COMPLEXION assured. Will send sealed letter. Avoid advertising frauds. Name this paper, and address Mrs. ELLA M. DENT, STATION K, San Francisco, Cal.

Asthma The Miraculous Kola Plant, Nature's Sure Cure for Asthma. Discovered on Congo River, West Africa. **Cure Guaranteed or No Pay.** Export Office, 1164 Broadway, New York. For Book & Trial Case, Free by Mail, address, EOLA IMPORTING CO., 132 Vine Street, Cincinnati, O.

LADIES. If you have superfluous **HAIR ON THE FACE** send for new information how to remove it easily and effectually without chemicals or instruments. Correspondence confidential in plain sealed envelope Mrs. M. N. PERRY, box 93, Oak Park, Ill. Say you saw this in Farm and Fireside.

FAT FOLKS REDUCED 15 to 25 lbs. per month. Reductions permanent. Endorsed by the press and leading society ladies. For particulars send 6 cents in stamps to **O. W. F. SNYDER, JR.** 54 McVicker's Theater Building, CHICAGO, ILL. or Room 6 B. 907 Broadway, New York City.

HAIR ON THE FACE IF LIGHT removed by depilatory; if strong, by electricity, permanently. 20 years' experience. Dermatologist John H. Woodbury, 127 W. 42d St., N. Y. Send stamp for book on Facial Blemishes.

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These patterns retail in fashion bazaars and stores for twenty-five to forty cents each, but in order to increase the demand for our paper among strangers, and to make it more valuable than ever to our old friends, we offer them to the lady readers of our paper for the remarkably low price of only 10 Cents Each. Postage one cent extra.

The patterns are all of the very latest New York styles, and are unequalled for style, accuracy of fit, simplicity and economy. For twenty-five years these patterns have been used the country over. Full descriptions and directions—as the number of yards of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment

to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a separate pattern for every single piece of the dress. Your order will be filled the same day it is received.

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For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give BUST measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

To get BUST and BUST measure, put the tape measure ALL of the way around the body, over the dress close under the arms.

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Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio.



No. 6452.—LADIES' WAIST. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust.

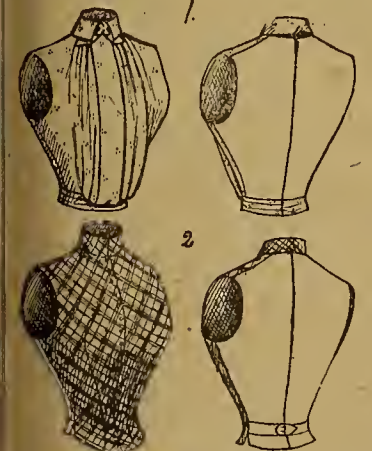
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No. 6332.—LADIES' HOUSE GOWN, OR WRAPPER. 12 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust.



No. 6407.—LADIES' GODET SKIRT. 11 cents. Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist.



No. 6349.—LADIES' SHIRT-WAIST. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust.



No. 6461.—LADIES' WAIST. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust.

No. 6407.—LADIES' SKIRT. 11 cents. Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist.



No. 6426.—LADIES' WAIST. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust.

No. 6407.—LADIES' SKIRT. 11 cents. Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist.



No. 6197.—LADIES' BLOUSE WAIST. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust.



No. 6350.—MISSSES' SHIRT-WAIST. 11 cents. Sizes, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches breast.



No. 6260.—LADIES' CHIFFON WAIST. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust.



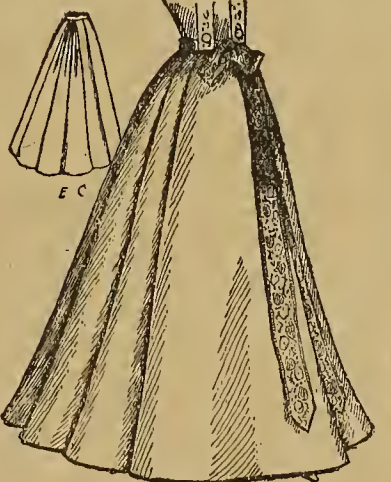
No. 6367.—LADIES' WAIST. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust.



No. 6466.—LADIES' BLAZER. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust.



No. 6432.—LADIES' WAIST. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust.



No. 6384.—LADIES' PLAITED SKIRT. 12 cents. Sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches waist.



No. 6356.—LADIES' YOKE WAIST. 11 cents. Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust.

No. 6361.—SAME—MISSSES' SIZE. 11 cents. Sizes, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches breast.



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No. 6400.—MISSSES' SKIRT. 11 cents. Sizes, 10, 12, 14 and 16 years.



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No. 6405.—GIRLS' BLOUSE. 11 cents. Sizes, 8, 10 and 12 years.



No. 6459.—LADIES' AND MISSSES' SUN-BONNETS. The two patterns for 11 cents. Cut in two sizes—Missses' and Ladies'.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

"OPEN YE THE GATES."

In that glorious day when the saints of God
On the wings of morning rise
To their "Father's house," that blest abode,
The city of Paradise,
They will hear the song that the angels sing
In the mansions of the blest,
As they homeward haste, on joyful wing,
To enter the gates of rest.

Though as pilgrims here they travel on
Till the night shall flee away,
They will gladly greet the coming morn
Of that promised happy day,
Where the jasper walls their radiance fling,
Nevermore shall shadows come,
And the gates of pearl will open swing
To welcome the wanderers home.

Safe at home at last, in the city fair,
By the river's flowing tide,
They will "see the King in his beauty" there,
And the gates he will open wide.
They will swell the carols of joyful praise
With their voices glad and free,
And the angel choirs their notes will raise
In the song of jubilee.

LIQUID BREAD.

REMEMBER once seeing over a public-house door in Liverpool, "Good ale is liquid bread." I went into the house and said, "Get me a quart of liquid bread."

The landlord said, "Ah! first-rate sign, isn't it?"

"Yes," said I, "if it's true."

"Oh, it's true enough; my beer is all right!"

"Well, give me a bottle to take home." He gave me a bottle of this liquid bread. I took it to Dr. Sammelson, an analytical chemist, and I said to him:

"I want you to tell me how much bread there is in this bottle."

He smelled it and said, "It's beer."

"No, no," said I, "it's liquid bread."

"Well," he said, "if you will come again in a week, I'll tell you all about it." He charged me three guineas. In a week's time I went to know all about the liquid bread. The first thing about it was there was ninety-three per cent of water.

"It's liquid, anyhow," I said; "we'll pass that. Now let us get onto the bread."

"Alcohol, five per cent."

"What's alcohol?" I said.

"There's the dictionary, you can hunt it up for yourself."

I hunted it up, and found alcohol described as a "powerful narcotic poison." Well, I thought, this is the queerest description of bread I ever read in my life. Then he gave me a number of small percentages of curious things, which he had put carefully down on each corner of a piece of white paper, and which amounted to about a quarter of a thimbleful of dirty-looking powder. That was the bread—two per cent.

"And there would not be so much as that," said Dr. Samuelson, "if it were Bass or Alsopp's. That is bad beer."

"So the better the beer the less bread there is in it?"

"Certainly. It is the business of the brewer to get the bread out of it, not to put the bread into it."

This is the simple, scientific truth with regard to beer, and the case is stronger with regard to wine and spirits. There is practically no nourishment in them at all.

ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO.

Always something to do. No work is ever finished. The same work must be done over and over again day by day. The weeds grow in the field, the fences fall down, the sheds decay. In the fields of spiritual toil, admonition, comfort, prayer, help, are always demanded. Nothing remains or stands firm. The strong to-day are the weak to-morrow. The helper calls for help in his turn. One day as much as another requires watchfulness for ourselves and helpfulness for others. There is no discharge in this war. But who would cease from toil, or ask to be excused from the ministries of love, or to be at truce with the agencies of sin? In this moral struggle, moral life has its experiences and its consciousness of being. For noble struggle there is sweet rest—sweet, because it eases the tired muscles, repairs the wasted tissue, and gives normal tone to the nerves, preparing us for renewal of the conflict. Grateful alike is this alternation of activity and rest. But the weariness of inaction is the paralysis of power, the hopelessness of a prison life. It is of all things the most intolerable to a noble spirit, which would rather fall upon the battle-field than rest, though in the splendor and luxury of a palace.

IDEALS.

It is told of General Thomas J. Jackson, who became famous as "Stonewall Jackson," that he was a young man of high ideals. Portions of his diary, written while a student at West Point, have been published, and in these he maps out with decided lines his future life—his aims, his desires, his motives and his mottoes. Taken together, and viewed in the light of his whole life, these illustrate forcibly the grand truth, which was also the most striking of his mottoes, "You may be whatever you resolve to be."

Other of his maxims were these: "Sacrifice your life rather than your word." Let your principal object be discharge of duty. "Disregard public opinion when it interferes with duty." He had also resolutions written out advocating justice, sincerity, moderation, frugality, industry and silence. He had rules for conduct even in small details, motives for action, and these written down with clearness and precision.

That this work was not an idle one, but the determined resolution of a young man to bring his conduct up to the highest standard his imagination could conceive, the biography of Stonewall Jackson sets forth. The lesson is this: What one man has done, other men and women can do. Not every man and woman will grow to be famous, but every man and woman in this world is capable of working out the ideal which he or she is capable of conceiving and resolving to be.—*Harper's Bazar.*

SERIOUS LOSS.

The old habit of memorizing large portions of the Holy Scriptures is passing away. The loss can never be estimated. Psalms and whole chapters in the Old and New Testaments have, by diligent work, become the possession of many, and there is no effort in recalling them. A beloved friend told us recently that he conducted family worship for a long time while convalescent without the use of a copy of the Bible, as sickness had deprived him of the privilege of reading. He felt that he could continue much longer, as there was no sign of exhaustion in the mental supply. A devout friend in the army on the eve of battle had no time to read from his precious Bible, but refreshed himself by repeating *Psa. xci.*, as he completed preparations and marched to the front. Preachers whose words are accurately biblical have a decided advantage with those hearers who love the sound as well as the truth of Scripture phrases.—*New York Observer.*

MISTAKES.

In our human life mistakes are both inevitable and invaluable. Without them we could hardly keep house. So a part of ourselves are they, that we should miss hardly anything so much. They are designed to help rather than to hinder us in our mortal pilgrimage. They rouse us, they open our eyes as nothing else will do. Our deviation from the path often gives us a better appreciation of it. Our mistakes are beacons, warnings of danger and setting us in the true course. Do not be afraid of mistakes; they have a lesson you should not fail to learn. "A man who does not know how to learn from his mistakes," says Beecher, "turns the best schoolmaster out of his life." He will not allow us to go over the lesson slightly; he so rubs in our knowledge that we seldom forget it. For the present grave mistakes are grievous, nevertheless they yield the peaceable fruits of righteousness in the end, to those who will consent to be instructed thereby.

NOT IN THE BIBLE.

Nine persons out of ten, if asked where the expression, "God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb," can be found, will answer, in the Bible. But they will be mistaken. This is one of the three or four proverbial quotations generally believed to be in the Bible, which are not there. It is from Lawrence Stern's famous "Sentimental Journey," in the chapter called "Maria." The other proverbs commonly credited to the Bible are, "Cleanliness is next to godliness," which is found in one of John Wesley's sermons, and "Pour oil on the troubled waters," which is derived from a statement in Pliny's natural history, written eighteen hundred years ago.

200,000 MEN CURED.

Since 1891 over 200,000 men, young, old and middle-aged have used the simple, harmless, recipe which cured me of lost vigor and weakness from errors and excesses. I send this recipe free to any man needing it. You can prepare it yourself or I will furnish it, ready for use cheaper than a druggist can. No catch penny, but a sure, simple self-cure. Recipe and full directions free by addressing **MR. THOMAS BARNES, Box 113, Marshall, Mich.**

SAVED FROM NICOTINE.

LITTLE CHARLEY FOGLEMAN USED TOBACCO SINCE BABYHOOD, AND HIS FATHER SMOKED AND CHEWED FOR THE PAST TWENTY YEARS—BOTH SET FREE AT ASHEVILLE, N. C.

"Is that true?" asked the *News* man at Pelham's Pharmacy, as he laid down a letter in the presence of a dozen interested customers.

"Yes, it is. It was written here on one of our letter heads, and signed by J. C. Fogleman," promptly answered the proprietor.

"You know him, don't you?"

"Certainly; he lives at No. 5 Buxton street. We all know Fogleman is a man of his word."

"I am glad to hear it. There are so many misleading statements published nowadays that when this came in this morning's mail I came right over to ask you about it. I read the letter three times, but you read it, and you will agree with me that it is almost too good to be true." This is what the letter said:

"Office of Pelham's Pharmacy, 24 Patton-avenue, Asheville, N. C., Sept. 12, 1894. Gentlemen—My little boy, now 8 years, began chewing tobacco when three years old by the advice of our family physician, in the place of stronger stimulants. Four or five weeks ago I began giving him No-To-Bac, which I bought at Pelham's Pharmacy, and to my great surprise, and, it is needless to say, my delight, No-To-Bac completely cured him. He does not seem to care for tobacco and is very much improved in health, eats heartily and has a much better color.

"Finding such remarkable results from the use of No-To-Bac I began myself, and it cured me, after using tobacco, in all its various forms, for a period of twenty years.

"I take pleasure in making this plain statement of facts for the benefit of others. (Signed) J. C. FOGLEMAN."

"Yes, I know it's a fact, and it's one of the strongest truthful testimonials I ever read—and it's true, for I sold him the No-To-Bac."

"What's that?" asked Chief of Police Hawkins, whose manly form attired in the new police uniform, like Solomon in all his glory, came to the door.

"Why, No-To-Bac cures!"

"Cures? Why, I should say so. I have used it myself. It cured me."

"Would you object to making a statement of the fact for publication?"

"Certainly not," and the Chief wrote as follows:

"Asheville, N. C., Sept. 25, 1894. Pelham Pharmacy—I bought one box of No-To-Bac from you some time since. After using No-To-Bac I found I had lost the desire for tobacco. I was cured.

"I have used tobacco—chiefly chewing—for eight (8) or ten (10) years.

H. S. HAWKINS."

Everybody looked astonished and wondered what would next turn up.

"Suppose it don't cure?" some one asked.

"Then they do the right thing when No-To-Bac won't cure." "What's that?" asked the *News* man. "Every druggist in America is authorized to sell No-To-Bac under an absolute guarantee to cure or money refunded. No-To-Bac is made by the Sterling Remedy Co., general offices in Chicago, Montreal and New York, and their laboratory is at Indiana Mineral Springs, Indiana, a big health resort they own; it's the place where they give Mud Baths for rheumatism and skin diseases. You ought to know the president, Mr. A. L. Thomas, of Lord & Thomas, of Chicago." "Yes, of course I do. We get business from them right along, and they are as good as gold. Well, give me their advertising books, and I will make a statement in the paper about what you have told me, for I know there are thousands of good North Carolina people who are tobacco spitting and smoking their lives away, and No-To-Bac is an easy guaranteed cure, and they ought to know it."

I think your patterns far superior to any I have ever used. Am delighted with them, and so are my neighbors.

METTIE LEWIS, Camden-on-Gauley, W. Va.

I am perfectly charmed with your patterns.

HATTIE RODI, Rustburg, Va.

I find your patterns to be up to the standard. I have used a great many of them, and find that they give a perfect fit. The best for the money on the market.

MRS. FRANK BOWERS, Camden, Maine.

I received my patterns all O. K., and am greatly pleased with them. Please accept my thanks.

MRS. A. A. GOODSELL, Jasper, Mich.

See page 13.

If We Kept... Everlastingly at It

Some people would not take advantage of a special offer to put a first-class magazine into their homes.

The Altruistic Review

Is indorsed by Mr. Gladstone, Benjamin Harrison, W. T. Stead, Edward Everett Hale, and scores of leading men, and the magazine is pure and wholesome and clean in its contents. Yet there are people who will read this and still not send 50 cents at once for *THIS TWO-DOLLAR MAGAZINE* for a "trial trip" of six entire months.

Or send \$1 for "trial trip" for 6 months, and receive free, postage paid, both "Gems from the Poets" (over 400 poems and pictures), and "Beauties and Wonders of Land and Sea" (over 1,000 pictures), with fascinating descriptions of insect and animal life.

Address **THE ALTRUISTIC REVIEW, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.**

Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Squash-bugs.—C. E. W., Hand-pleking, and mashing with tweezers or between two sticks is the best and surest remedy. Hunt the bugs off every hill once or twice a day for a week or two.

Lice on Cucumber-vines.—M. E., Mt. Oliver, Pa., writes: "What can we do to get rid of lice on cucumber-vines, and is there anything to prevent them from coming?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Use tobacco dust all around the plants.

Butter Nostrum.—J. C. N., Ravenna, Wash., writes: "A process for making three fourths of a pound of butter from a gallon (?) of milk is being sold here. Do you know anything of the system?"

REPLY:—Yes. It is a well-known and contemptible fraud. Have nothing to do with it. It is probably old "black peepsin" masquerading under a new name.

White Beans in Corn.—C. H. C., Albia, Iowa, writes: "Will some one please tell me what bean to plant with corn for a catch crop, and where to obtain the seed? White beans preferred?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Any ordinary white bean which sells in your markets will do—say White Kidney, Marrow, Medium, Pea, etc. All stores dealing in seeds or garden supplies, or any seedsmen, can furnish you with seed.

Tomato-blight.—R. H., Goldendale, Wash., asks whether spraying is a certain cure or preventive of tomato-blight, when to spray and what mixture to use.

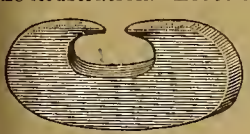
REPLY BY JOSEPH:—If this blight is the bacterial blight which attacks, also, potatoes, melons and other vines, etc., I am afraid that we have not yet found the right remedy or preventive. You might try the Bordeaux mixture, spraying once early and repeating every ten days.

Good Putty.—H. G. T., Deer Park, N. Y. To make good putty, use unadulterated white lead and pure linseed-oil. Or try the following recipe for "Imperishable putty": Take ten parts of Spanish whiting and one part of white lead, and mix them with the necessary quantity of boiled linseed-oil, adding a small quantity of the best sweet-oil; the last prevents the white lead from hardening, and preserves the putty a long time. All putty should be made some time before it is used; and sashes intended to be puttied should previously receive one coat of paint, which will cause the putty to adhere much more firmly.

Bitter Squashes.—E. J. D., Gloversville, N. Y., writes: "I raised a number of Perfect Gem squashes, and have been using them on the table during the whole growing season. During winter, however, we found a number of specimens that were excessively bitter. Is this the fault of the poor keeping qualities of the Perfect Gem?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—The bitter taste is not a peculiarity of the variety, but must be due to some fault in the storage. I am not quite sure what causes the bitter taste which we sometimes find in cucumbers, lettuce, etc. Possibly some of our readers can enlighten us on this subject.

Anti-Self-milker.—J. W. A., Alton, Ill. In reply to your query, we republish the following description of a simple device that will do the work: Take a piece of tough, hard-wood board about eight inches long and four inches wide, and work it into the shape of the illustration. Let it be three fourths of an



inch thick on the upper edge, and shave off to one fourth of an inch on the lower edge. Make the opening just large enough to admit the septum dividing the nostrils, and spring it into place. Round off and smooth the projecting knobs, so they will not make a sore, and with this ornament a cow can eat or drink as usual, but she can't drink milk. A smaller one will prevent a calf from sucking.

Potatoes and Potato-bugs.—Elsie, Glen Haven, Wis., writes: "(1) Will it do to cover the potato-vines with dirt as soon as they appear above the ground? (2) What proportion of Paris green and flour, or any other substance, will do for potato-bugs? Will it kill the old bugs? Can too much be used?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—(1) Young potato-plants when covered with soil will soon force their way out again. (2) You can mix one pound of Paris green with one hundred pounds of flour, lime or plaster. I prefer to use it in water, one pound to seventy-five gallons, and three or four pounds of lime, sprayed on the vines with the Red Jacket harrow or a knapsack sprayer. This will kill old beetles and slugs.

Asparagus and Rhubarb for Family Use.—D. R. P., Salamanca, N. Y., writes: "Will you kindly tell me how to prepare an asparagus bed, and what size I want for a family of six adults?—In planting pie-plant, do I plant seed or set out the root? How far apart should they be?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Fifty plants will probably give you all the asparagus that a large family will want. Select a rich, warm spot of ground—out of the way, of course—and set the plants in a row two feet apart. If more than one row, make the rows five feet apart. Set them six inches deep, and keep free from weeds during the whole season.—You can grow your pie-plant from seed, retaining the best plants. Set them four feet apart each way, in very rich ground.

Damping Off.—D. M. M., Lebanon, Ohio, writes: "I started some melons and cucumbers in the hotbed, and just before taking them to the field, the roots seemed to dwindle away, and the plants died."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—The plant received from the inquirer was killed by the "damping off" fungus, one of the most troublesome and mysterious diseases which attack plants under glass. The following is from the new edition of "How to Make the Garden Pay": "I believe that the soil can be disinfected and the roots thus protected from attack. The most feasible plan is to water the soil with a solution of permanganate of potash, say an ounce to one hundred gallons of water, or of copper sulphate, say an ounce to fifteen gallons, or with diluted Bordeaux mixture, previous to sowing the seed, or if required, even after the plants are up. * * * It is also stated that soil may be disinfected by giving it the conditions (heat and moisture) favorable to the germination of the spores, and then, a few

days later, exposing it thoroughly to a very dry, hot atmosphere, so as to kill the sprouted spores. Baking soil in a hot oven will also be liable to free it from an infection."

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.
Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Lumps.—A. F. M., Glendora, Mich. I cannot make out from your description what the "lumps" on your cow may be.

Incontinence of Urine.—J. L. D., Wales, Wis. Your horse, it seems, suffers from paralysis of the neck of the bladder. There is no prospect of a cure, especially as the horse has been that way over a year.

Sarcocela.—W. H. U., Racine. The hard swelling of the scrotum of your bull very likely is caused by tuberculous. Have your bull castrated, and if you then find that it is tuberculous, kill the bull and bury its carcass.

A Barren Heifer.—L. R. W., Woodbury, Pa. There are many causes of barrenness, and nothing can be done unless the causes are known and can be removed, which latter is but seldom the case. It is usually the best to prepare such an animal for the shambles.

A Dead Calf.—L. L., Perry, S. Dak. Your calf, it seems, either died of some acute blood disease that made it delirious, or else from some acute affection (hemorrhage, severe congestion or inflammation) of the brain and its membranes. A post-mortem examination would have revealed the cause of death.

An Affection of the Bladder.—J. R. W., Zachary, La. Your horse, it seems, suffers from an affection (irritation and chronic inflammation) of the bladder, caused, perhaps, by the presence of stones, concretions or calcareous sediments. Of course, the first thing necessary is to ascertain the cause. When the latter is known, the remedy, which may have to consist in a surgical operation, will suggest itself.

Lame Eighteen Months.—L. J., Sardis, Miss. What I can gather from your description makes it probable that your mule suffers from crural paralysis, but as it has existed over eighteen months, there is very little prospect of ultimate recovery. What you take to be contracted tendons are probably atrophied muscles, because there are no tendons where your drawing places them.

Osteomalacia.—M. K., Chesaning, Mich. Your sow, it seems, suffers from osteomalacia (fragility of bones), produced by unsuitable food; that is, food deficient in indispensable constituents, particularly lime salts, and perhaps too rich in acids (lactic acid, etc.), that in consequence a pelvic bone or the femur has become fractured, and that the fracture constitutes the cause of the lameness. Change the food, avoid acid, feed some bran, other substances rich in phosphates and lime salts, and even some soluble bone-meal.

Paresis.—E. P., Cherry Creek, Nev., writes: "I have a calf (heifer), six months old, that was horn apparently healthy and continued so for about a month, when she became weak in the hind quarters, and for nearly two weeks she could not rise on her hind feet without assistance. She then began to get better, and has slowly improved ever since, but is still very weak in the neighborhood of the kidneys, and urinates almost continually. She eats heartily, and chews her cud."

ANSWER:—Your calf probably was injured in the lumbar or sacral region.

So-called Sand-crack.—E. C. U., Mayfield, Ky. If your horse has a so-called sand-crack, extending to the matrix of the horn at the coronet, take the same to a good horseshoer, ask him to cut away the horn at the coronet on both sides of the crack, so as to completely sever its connection with its matrix (make a so-called T cut); this done, let him, about one inch lower, rivet the borders of the crack together with a fine hoof-nail, and this done, let him put on a shoe, upon which that part of the hoof, or rather, its wall, where the crack is, has no bearing. If this is done, if good care is taken of the hoof, and if the shoe is reset once every four weeks, the crack will disappear in about a year.

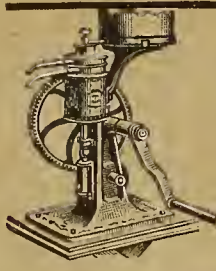
A Closed Teat.—R. G. S., Pt. Marion, Pa. According to your letter, your cow was not ailing last year, but has now, since she has become fresh, one of her teats closed at the end. If the teat has once been open, it is not so very difficult to force an opening by means of some instrument, but it is an entirely different thing to keep open, because after force has been used, an adhesive inflammation will set in, and soon the opening of the teat will become more firmly closed than before. If there is yet some opening, you may procure some catgut, cut it into ends about one and one half inches in length, make at one end of each piece a knot, sterilize all your ends, or pieces, in a five-per-cent solution of carbolic acid, and then introduce, after each milking, one of the sterilized ends of catgut into the teat; the knot prevents it from slipping in altogether. The catgut may be left in for about two hours. The same end of catgut may be repeatedly used, but each time it must first be cleaned, dried and sterilized.

A Helpless Hog.—J. F. McD., Rice Depot, Va., writes: "I have a hog which has lost the use of his legs and back. He cannot rise, or stand when up. His jaws are stiff, and he breathes hard; has been so for four or five days. What is the matter with him?"

ANSWER:—I cannot answer your question. It does not even proceed from your communication whether your hog is merely stiff or paralytic. If, as you expect, your hog dies, make a post-mortem examination. Don't neglect to examine the spinal cord, and if you do not find anything sufficiently abnormal to constitute the cause, have parts of the muscles examined by a microscopist, and cause and nature of the disease, very likely, will be revealed.

Tenia Cœnurus.—H. S. S., Fort Wayne, Ind., writes: "I have a young dog, eight months old, that is ailing as follows: A few days ago, and frequently (say twice) since, I noticed crawling over his hair, which unmistakably came from him, a worm. When the worm was at rest, it was flat and circular (resembling a penny, only diminutive in size), and about three eighths of an inch in diameter and about from one sixteenth to one eighth of an inch thick, and a dirty white, approaching the yellow, in color. When it crawled, one side of this circular piece would

HAVE YOU FIVE OR MORE COWS?



If so a "Baby" Cream Separator will earn its cost for you every year. Why continue an inferior system another year at so great a loss? Dairying is now the only profitable feature of Agriculture. Properly conducted it always pays well, and must pay you. You need a Separator, and you need the BEST—the "Baby." All styles and capacities. Prices, \$75 upward. Send for new 1895 Catalogue.



THE DE LAVAL SEPARATOR CO.,

Branch Offices:
ELGIN, ILL.

General Offices:
74 CORTLANDT ST., NEW YORK.

YOU NEED IT "GOOD BUTTER" AND HOW TO MAKE IT.

A help in every dairy. Mailed Free. Tells all about that convenient economizer—the Crystal Creamery. Crystal Creamery Co., 20 Concord St., Lansing, Mich.

advance slowly, elongating only the foremost portion at that time. Continuing this motion, it would reach a length of perhaps three fourths of an inch and three sixteenths of an inch in width. It would then draw up the rear end and assume its former circular shape. The dog is languid and loosing flesh, but has a hearty appetite. His hair is coarse and dull, and without the usual gloss. He fed on a sheep, a few months ago, that refused to eat or drink for over a week. It stood with its head down in a languid position, oblivious to surrounding things. This was in January or February."

ANSWER:—What you describe as a worm or worms are the matured proglottides, or joints, of a tapeworm, known as *Tenia cœnurus*. This tapeworm occurs in the intestines of carnivorous animals, such as dogs, wolves and foxes, and its larva, or cystworm, *Cœnurus cerebralis*, inhabits the brain, and in rare cases the spinal chord of ruminating animals, especially of sheep, in which it causes a fatal brain disease. Hence, every sheep that dies of this disease should be buried so deeply that no dog can resurrect it; and as the tapeworm produces a very large number of proglottides, and each proglottis innumerable eggs, which, after the proglottis has died off, adhere to the grass, etc., get with the latter into the stomach of the future host, the sheep, from which the embryos, in a short time hatched from eggs, will migrate to the brain, in which they develop to cystworms. Every dog that has the tapeworm, *Tenia cœnurus*, should be killed and buried.

DO YOU WANT TO STOP TOBACCO?

YOU CAN BE CURED WHILE USING IT.

The habit of using tobacco grows on a man, until grave diseased conditions are produced. Tobacco causes cancer of the mouth and stomach; dyspepsia; loss of memory; nervous affections; congestion of the retina, and wasting of the optic nerve, resulting in impairment of vision, even to the extent of blindness; dizziness, or vertigo; tobacco asthma; nightly suffocation; dull pain in region of the heart, followed later by sharp pains, palpitation and weakened pulse, resulting in fatal heart disease. It also causes loss of vitality.

QUIT, BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

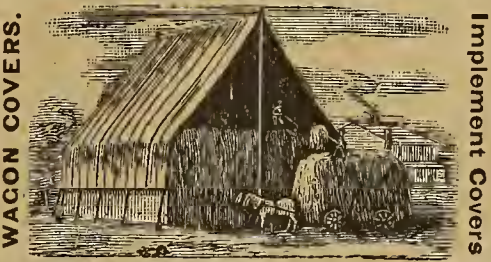
To quit suddenly is too severe a shock to the system, as tobacco—to an inveterate user, becomes a stimulant that his system continually craves. "BACO-CURO" is a scientific and reliable vegetable remedy, guaranteed to be perfectly harmless, and which has been in use for the last twenty-three years, having cured thousands of habitual tobacco users—smokers, chewers and snuff-dippers.

YOU CAN USE ALL THE TOBACCO YOU WANT, WHILE TAKING "BACO-CURO." IT WILL NOTIFY YOU WHEN TO STOP. WE GIVE A WRITTEN GUARANTEE to permanently cure any case with three boxes, or refund the money with ten per cent interest.

"BACO-CURO" is not a substitute, but a reliable and scientific cure—which absolutely destroys the craving for tobacco without the aid of will power, and with no inconvenience. It leaves the system as pure and free from nicotine, as the day you took your first chew or smoke.

Sold by all druggists, at \$1.00 per box, three boxes, (thirty days treatment, and GUARANTEED CURE,) \$2.50, or sent direct upon receipt of price. SEND SIX TWO-CENT STAMPS FOR SAMPLE BOX, BOOKLET AND PROOFS FREE. Eureka Chemical & Manufacturing Company, Manufacturing Chemists, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Waterproof Hay Caps, Stack Covers and Tents.



NATIONAL WATERPROOF FIBRE CO.,
36 South St., New York.

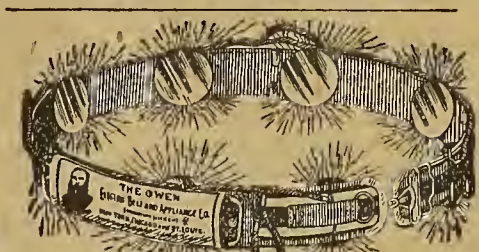


CABLED POULTRY AND GARDEN FENCE. Also Cabled Field and Hog Fencing, Steel Web Picket Lawn Fence, Steel Wire Fence Board, Steel Gates, Steel Posts, Steel Rail, Tree, Flower and Tomato Guards. Catalogue Free. DeKalb Fence Co., 338 High St., DeKalb, Ill.

LOOK for our announcement in NEXT issue of this paper. It will show a cut of 1 style of

DAVIS CREAM SEPARATORS

It would take several pages to give details about these peerless machines. Handsome Illustrated Pamphlet Mailed Free. AGENTS WANTED. DAVIS & RANKIN BLDG. AND MFG. CO. Sole Manufacturers, Chicago.



The Owen Electric Belt

Cures Rheumatism, Sciatica, Chronic Diseases and Nervous Ailments in either man or woman, from any cause, where medicines fail. Write for large illustrated Catalogue and sworn evidence of these facts. Avoid imitations of the Owen Belt.

THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT & APPLIANCE CO.
211 State St., Chicago, Ill.

FRUIT EVAPORATORS

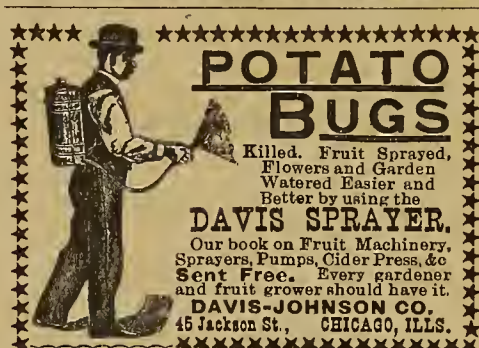
and CIDER MILLS. BEST, CHEAPEST and Most Reliable on the market. Catalogue free. WM. STAHL EVAPORATOR CO., - QUINCY, ILL.

THE FERTILE SOUTH—THE BEST PART OF IT.

Hundreds of northern farmers are getting rich here. Are you, where you are? Write A. J. ROOKS, Sect'y, Somerville, Fayette County, Tenn.

\$100 for a 5-acre farm, covered with wood, in Southern New Jersey; close to railroad; finest markets in the world, especially adapted for small fruits, poultry, vegetables, etc.; high and dry; healthy neighborhood, sold on instalments of \$1 down and \$1 per week, title insured. Send for particulars. D. L. RISLEY, 221 S. 10th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

FREE SPRAY PUMP to one person in each place. We mean it. If you mean business and want agency send 10c. We will send a complete pump that will do the work of a \$10 spray. A. SPEIRS, B 69 North Windham, Maine.



SEND STAMP FOR SAMPLE AND CATALOGUE
DIAMOND PACKAGE CO.
ROCHESTER,
10 FURNACE ST., N.Y.

NO FLIES, VERMIN or SORES on HORSE or COW (½ more milk.)
Where SHOO-FLY is used.

THE ORIGINAL STOCK PROTECTOR 1885. Thousands of testimonials from thirty-seven States. BEWARE of followers! Some a greasy paste that gums the hair and clogs the pores, injuring the animal. If your dealer offers a substitute, send 50 cts. and our agent in your State will express one quart. \$1.50 per gallon—1c. per day. Agent, \$90 month. SHOO-FLY MFG. CO., PHILADELPHIA.

FREE! A FINE BICYCLE!
If you want one, either sex, write us at once and we will send circular showing how you may get one. We give a bicycle to one person in each locality who will comply with our offer to help introduce our popular 64-col. monthly. These bicycles cost at retail \$30 and upwards, but we give you one FREE if you mean business. Send us the names of 5 persons in your locality fond of reading, and 10 cts. silver or 12 cts. stamps, and we will send you our charming illustrated magazine three months on trial, and our grand introduction offer by return mail. Popular Monthly, 419 Water St., Boston, Mass.



PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM
Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 50c. and \$1.00 at Druggists

RHEUMATISM I know my internal remedy will cure it. No help, money back. \$1. Prepaid in U. S. Book free. F. E. WADLEIGH, Alton, New Hampshire.

HAIR HEALTH warranted to renew youthful color to Gray Hair. Most satisfactory Hair grower, 50c. London Supply Co. 853 E-way, New York, will send Hair Book & box Hairs' Kink Cures, Best Corn Cure, both FREE

Our Miscellany.

TUSKS of the mammoth have been found of a length of nine feet, measured along the curve.

PETROLEUM has been used for some time in Germany as a means of preventing the formation of scale in boilers.

If a bedstead creaks at each movement of the sleeper, remove the slats and wrap the ends of each in old newspapers.

SIBERIAN peasants clean, stretch and dry the skin of the turbot for leather bags and as a substitute for glass window-panes.

WHEN terrified, the ostrich is said to travel at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour, and clears twelve to fourteen feet at a stride.

A TWO-HUNDRED-AND-TWENTY-FIVE-OUNCE gold nugget in the shape of a horseshoe has been discovered at Hargraves, Australia.

A GUARDIAN of the peace of Gardiner, Me., was found asleep by a townsman, who handcuffed him and relieved him of his valuables.

It is believed by microscopists that the highest powers of their instruments have not yet revealed the most minute forms of animal life.

Boo, the exclamation used to frighten children, is a corruption of Bah, the name of a famous Gothic general. It has been used as a terror word for centuries.

MISS DR. JENNIE TAYLOR, niece of Bishop Taylor, of Africa, and physician in his mission work, walked 500 miles inland, and was not sick a minute at any time.

ACCORDING to statistics gathered from the English probate courts, brewers' fortunes in that country are made with the greatest average rapidity. Bankers come next.

THE sending of a message and reply between Manchester, England, and Victoria, B. C., occupied only ninety seconds. The total distance by wire, out and return, is 18,000 miles.

A WOMAN died in Allentown who had lived as a servant in one family for a period of sixty-seven years. Another servant died in the service of a Boston family, at the same time, after serving sixty-two years.

A DOG twelve months old, standing thirty-nine inches high and weighing 135 pounds, as big as a good-sized calf, is owned by L. T. Wilson, of Catlettsburg, Ky. It is a German deerhound, of the same species as Bismarck's two favorites.

THERE is a breed of cats little known outside of Maine, and designated in that state as "coon" cats. Animals of this species are tortoise-shell in color, and the fur is remarkably thick and long, the tail being so bushy as to suggest that of a young fox.

A RUSSIAN physician has been making some curious experiments to find out how far animals can count. He declares that the crow can count up to ten, and is thereby superior in arithmetic to certain Polynesian tribes of men, who cannot get beyond five or six.

THE reason why red infuriates members of the ox family is because red is the complementary color of green, and the eyes of cattle being long fixed on herbage while feeding, when they espy anything red it impresses their sight with greatly increased intensity.

AMERICAN walnut is a high-priced wood, partly, perhaps, because of its scarcity; but the Italian walnut, and not the American, is used in the finest carved furniture. The Italian is of much finer texture than the American, and is peculiarly rich and beautiful for massive pieces of carved work.

TWENTY-FOUR-CARAT gold is all gold; 22-carat gold has 22 parts of gold, 1 of silver and 1 of copper; 18-carat gold has 18 parts of pure gold and 3 parts each of silver and copper in its composition; 12-carat gold is half gold, the remainder being made up of 3½ parts of silver and 8½ parts of copper.

ONE of the oddest of government publications is the pamphlet on cooking, issued by the Department of Agriculture. It contains an introductory essay on the nutritive value of common foods, followed by an elaborate presentation by Edward Atkinson of his theory as to the proper cooking of foods. It is the first time that Mr. Atkinson's plan of cooking has received official sanction.

WEST VIRGINIA'S mountaineers have been as little disturbed in their fastnesses as any body of Caucasians in the United States. Many of them watched with indifference from their perches the progress of the civil war, and some of them are still neglectful of politics. A belief in their right to make and drink and sell untaxed whisky is part of their creed as to personal liberty, and they are singularly distrustful of the stranger once they know he is not a revenue officer.

TILGHMAN'S ISLAND, a part of Talbot county, Maryland, and connected with the mainland by a bridge, is famous in the Chesapeake region for its canoes. The island is about three square miles in area, and is densely populated by a hardy race of eastern shoremen, who gain their living in the waters of the bay. When ice or the laws of Maryland interfere with their ordinary pursuits, the Tilghman's islanders build canoes, and do it admirably well. The true Chesapeake canoe is still a dug-out. Sometimes two or three logs are hollowed for the purpose and joined together. The result is a remarkably staunch boat, good in all waters and almost indestructible.

THE latest advertising device is to decorate shop windows with what appear to be big cracks in the plate-glass. This is called a decoration advisedly, for it is put on with French chalk and paint. Gray or bluish lines, radiating from a center, have a surprising likeness to a break, and the device serves its purpose of causing people to stop and look.

IN the meat-shops of towns in New Mexico and Arizona the visitor from the East is apt to notice that the dressed carcasses of sheep have a tuft of wool still attached to the head and tail. This is left by the butcher to assure the customer that it is mutton and not goat flesh they are buying, for in these territories many flocks of goats are reared and pastured by the small Mexican ranchmen, to be killed for food for the poorer natives. Roast or stewed kid, with chilli pepper-sauce, is an esteemed dinner dish at the tables of many well-to-do Spanish and Spanish-American citizens.

THE most extraordinary precautions are taken in Spain to provide for the safety of the sovereign at night. His slumbers are watched throughout the night by the monterof de Espinosa, a body of men who for 400 years have enjoyed the exclusive privilege of guarding their royal master or mistress from sunset to sunrise. They are bound by tradition to be natives of the town of Espinosa and to have served with honor in the army. They lock the palace gates with much ceremony and solemnity at midnight, and open them again at seven o'clock in the morning. Their fidelity to the person of their sovereign does not admit of question.

HOW TO GET TOKOLOGY FREE.

FARM AND FIRESIDE has for some time been advertising and recommending TOKOLOGY as a book for every woman, but in these times of financial depression the complaint comes from many who desire the book and know its value, that \$2.75 is too much to pay for it.

We are authorized to tell you that although the price of the book is not reduced and cannot be, from the fact that the sale of the work is largely through agents, still if you will write to ALICE B. STOCKHAM & CO., Chicago, you will learn how to get a TOKOLOGY free. Send a postal card only.

THE greatest cities of ancient times were Babylon and Rome. The former is said to have had an area of one hundred to two hundred square miles; its houses were three or four stories high, but palaces and gardens occupied much of the vast area, so that the population was not what these figures would seem to indicate. In fact, it is said by one historian that nine tenths of this area was taken up by gardens and orchards. The total population of the city under Nebuchadnezzar and his son Evil-Merodach is estimated at over 2,000,000. Rome reached its greatest size during the fourth century of our era, and its population was then about 2,500,000.

THE Keystone Woven Wire Fence Co., of Tremont, Ill., received its name from the keystone shape of the mesh in the fence they manufacture. This fence is the invention of a farmer, and the machinery used in its manufacture also of his invention, and is wonderfully ingenious. That a machine can be made that will take one wire and wrap around another and then carry it to another wire, and continue the wrapping and twisting process, is almost marvelous, but after all the machinery is simple, and in that fact lies the excellence of the "Keystone" fence. They make immense quantities of fence which is used all over the country. Its popularity is on the increase. Write for their catalogue, which contains much valuable information about fencing. Sent free to all who write and mention FARM AND FIRESIDE.

A NEW ORLEANS paper says that the dome of the old St. Louis Hotel, now the Hotel Royal, was famous before the war as the slave market of New Orleans. The planters and slave merchants used the St. Louis Hotel as a sort of meeting-place, and the slave-block under the great dome was a convenience that grew more and more popular. It was here that Abraham Lincoln, when a boy, stood and watched the sale of slaves, and it was here that he made the remark, afterward so famous, "If I ever get a chance to hit that, I'll hit it hard." During the banquet given in his honor last winter, Governor McKinley stood over the spot where the slave-block had been and made his response to the toast which the enthusiastic southerners drank to him.

WHO WANTS \$65.00?

Men, woman and children can earn one of the following presents for writing me where the word WORK first occurs in the New Testament. To the first person sending correct answer before August 10, 1895, I will pay \$20; 2d, \$10; 3d, \$5; and to the next 30, \$1 in cash. I will send presents as offered in regular order, the money will be sent on August 20, 1895. If two or more correct answers should be first received, the first one opened will receive the first present, and so on with the smaller presents. This is no fraud as I wish to introduce my valuable medicine, I take this way of placing it before the people. Each answer must contain 25c. in silver, for which the sender will promptly receive one full package of STEKETEE'S WORM DESTROYER, acknowledged to be the best medicine in the world by everyone who has used it. Cut this out, as it will appear but one time. Search your Testament and gain one of the presents. The money will surely be paid. This is the third time we have offered presents and paid as advertised. Each receives full value aside from the present. No questions will be answered unless accompanied by a 2c. stamp. Surely mention this paper. Address GEO. G. STEKETEE, Grand Rapids, Mich.

THE maxim, "Murder will out," is disproved by statistics. In the ten years ending with 1886, there were 1,766 murders committed in England and Wales, and in 1,094 of these cases no trace of the criminal was ever found that led to his apprehension.

"HAVE YOU FIVE OR MORE COWS?"

This is a head-line which has for a couple of years been found in nearly every issue of practically every agricultural and dairy publication, and which its authors—the manufacturers of the De Laval Cream Separators—have made famous. The new 1895 De Laval machines are the acme of perfection and practicality in their sphere. The De Laval catalogue is an interesting and instructive pamphlet, well worth reading if nothing more, and attention is called to the new and special advertisement of the De Laval Co. appearing in this issue, which is one of the handsomest and most attractive that has come to our attention in some time.

Mrs. J. M. B. writes: "I cannot thank God enough for Tokology; by following it I cured myself of local troubles of the worst kind, and dyspepsia of seven years' standing."

In Reach of All.

Best Education Christian, Non-Sectarian,

Northern advantages in Southern mountain climate, 130 miles from Cincinnati. Reduced R. R. rates. 3 College Courses. Music, Academy, Normal, Manual. Tuition free. Incidentals \$4.50 a term. The great expense in education is board. Go where good board can be furnished cheaply. Address Pres. W. G. FROST, Ph. D., Berea, Kentucky.

No Saloons. Find Out About Berea College

I have ordered six patterns from you, and am delighted with them. I shall do all I can to get new subscribers for your paper.

FANNIE KING, Charleston, Ark.

Mrs. L. N. A. writes: "If I knew I was to be the mother of innumerable children it would have no terrors for me, so great is my confidence in the science of Tokology."

A complete ladies' guide in health and disease, by ALICE B. STOCKHAM, M. D., in practice for twenty-five years. A necessity in every home.

Sample Pages Free. Best Terms for AGENTS. PREPAID \$2.75.

TOKOLOGY

ALICE B. STOCKHAM & CO., 277 Madison St., Chicago.

Ten... Minutes



Examination of our Sewing-machines is worth more than a dozen catalogues, but we give you 30 days to examine and test them.

We are anxious to have you see the machines. We want them compared with others; that is all we ask. If they are not the best machines in the world for the money, you'll soon find it out.

Order a machine and give it a trial. Test it hard and long, then if you want to,

Send it Back.

FIRST send for our new 16-page Sewing-machine catalogue, and select the machine you want. You will certainly be astonished at our low prices. Catalogues free to any address.

FARM AND FIRESIDE, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

An Education Free

TO ALL AMBITIOUS AND ENERGETIC

YOUNG MEN AND YOUNG WOMEN,

IN THEIR OWN CHOICE OF STUDIES IN

Any School or College of America.

The publishers of THE FARM AND FIRESIDE are sending young men and young women to school FREE of ALL EXPENSES, in exchange for getting up a club of subscribers for their journal. A valuable premium is furnished every subscriber. The terms are the most liberal ever offered.

If you cannot go away from home to school, courses in shorthand, bookkeeping, journalism, law, etc., by mail, will be furnished in exchange for a few days' pleasant work taking subscriptions. Many young men and women are getting their education this way. Why not you? Send for the full particulars to-day.

This is the opportunity of a lifetime to get your education free.

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio.

Send us the addresses of all deserving young men and women whom you know to be ambitious for an education, and are more or less dependent upon their own resources.

Smiles.

"MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB."

Pale was she with tints of mist,
Fair light in her coiled hair lies;
Amethyst the skies—the skies all amethyst—
Azure the light of her eyes.
Mary! young hours of girls,
What pale thing walks by her side?
In the white of whose bubbled curls
The sun shadows wrestle and hide?
Mutton it is in its youth and its pride!
Back and forth in the sun's bright glow
The pale object goes by her side
Wherever Mary doth go!

—Chicago Record.

Hush-a-by, baby; your mother is gone.
She's out at a meeting and will be till dawn.
She's making a speech about woman's rights.
Hush-a-by, baby; let's put out the lights.

—Cincinnati Enquirer.

HOW THE NEW WOMAN WILL PROPOSE.

I.

HER hands trembled as she attempted to fix her tie. Thirteen collars have been ruined. She took a photograph from a drawer. It was the sweet, innocent face of a young man.

"Ah, little George! I can no longer deceive myself, I love you. The strong is about to become the weak. How far we women will go for the bright eyes of a silly man! But enough! I shall ask you to be mine this night, come what may."

II.

"Mr. Nicely will be down in a moment. Pray be seated."
But her heart beat too wildly. She paced the floor.

"The dear, dear little boy! How I love him."
The curtains parted and the world's greatest treasure—a true-hearted, innocent young man—entered.

III.

An ordinary, every-day conversation for a few minutes. She attempts to take the hand of George, who blushes and looks startled.

IV.

"I must explain myself! Hear me! I can no longer act this hateful part! I must speak! I love you with the great love of a brave woman. I—"

"But this is so—"
"It is. But will you be my husband?"
There was a great gulf of pity in the young man's gentle eyes. But he spoke:
"No. But I will be a brother to you."—Boston Post.

IN A HURRY.

"I'm in a hurry," he said, rushing into a hardware store. "Just got time to catch a train. Give me a corn-popper, quick!"
"All right, sir," replied the clerk. "Do you want a large pop-corner?"
"No, just a medium-sized—an ordinary corn-copper."

"How will this corn-copper do?"
"Is that a pop-corner?"
"Yes. But you're getting twisted. You mean a corn-popper. No, a corn-copper! No, a—"
"I mean a corn-popper!"
"Oh, yes, a corn-copper!"
"Yes, he quick! Gimme a pup-coaner, and be quick!"
"All right. Here's your pun-cooper."—Industrial World.

AN OBJECT-LESSON.

A foreign missionary and teacher relates this incident:
"While teaching arithmetic to six bright Korean boys, I learned that among them they had seven chogeries (jackets). I asked, 'If one of you have two chogeries, how many are there for the other five?' All subtracted boys from chogeries like little Americans. After an explanation I wrote chogeries on the blackboard; then with my chalk under the seven, asked, 'What shall I put under these chogeries?' The quick, eager and confident reply was, 'Paji' (trousers)."

A CHANGE.

"The doctor has ordered me to try a change for awhile," said Mrs. Gabb.
"Then if I were you I would go to a photographer's and have my picture taken," said Mr. Gabb.
"Why should I do that?" asked the lady as she brought her teeth together with a click.
"Because the photographer will tell you to look pleasant, and if you obey him it will be the greatest change that you could possibly experience."—New York Mail and Express.

HOLDING HIS OWN ASHORE.

Nauticus—"What, seasick already? You are not half a sailor, old man."
Wearicus—"That may be, but you should see me on land."
Nauticus—"Why so, pray?"
Wearicus—"I'm a wholesaler there."

AMERICAN INVENTORS.

Little boy—"Papa, what is an inventor?"
Papa—"He is a man who invents something that everybody else manufactures, and then spends all his money trying to stop them."—Street & Smith's Good News.

MARKET REPORT.

"It seems to me," said the man with the market-basket on his arm, looking discontentedly at the stock of ribs and shanks hanging on the hooks, "that the bony part revival has struck this shop pretty hard."

"Yes, sir," replied the man behind the white apron, cying him sharply, "it's pretty hard to make both ends meat these days."—Chicago Tribune.

THE PROOFS OF PROGRESS.

Just about three centuries ago Shakspeare was writing and producing his greatest plays. In three hundred years we have come to living pictures and bronze statues and French comedies done into English and translated into American. In some respects dramatic evolution, "like a crab," can give Hamlet and Polonious points on going backward.—Judge.

KEPT HIS VOW.

"And did he really keep his vow of committing suicide when he found she would not marry him?"
"Why, yes; in a fashion. He drank himself to death."
"Oh! killed himself on the installment plan, did he?"—Indianapolis Journal.

MUST BOW TO ETIQUETTE.

Mother—"Johnny, go down to the grocer's and get a pound of black tea."
Johnny—"I heard pa say he didn't like black tea."
Mother—"It makes no difference what your father says, Johnny. This family is in mourning now."—Berliner Tageblatt.

DIDN'T HOPE TO BETTER HERSELF.

"Please, ma'am," said the cook, "I'd like to give you a week's notice."
"Why, Mary, this is a great surprise. Do you hope to better yourself?"
"Well, no, not exactly that," answered Mary, with a blush. "I'm going to get married."—Christian Register.

CAN'T EXIST WITHOUT IT.

A husband was complaining to his wife, who was of a sunny disposition.
"Life is a burden," he sighed.
"Yes, dear," she answered, "but you know we couldn't exist very well without it."
Then he smiled and took a new hold.

THE PARENTAL VIEW.

Mr. Solidman—"That young Chumpley is so soft you could run a tallow candle through him!"
Mr. Hardsense—"Tallow candle! Humph! You could throw a custard pie through that fellow and not break it."—Life.

THAT ACCOUNTS FOR IT.

Belle—"Ordinarily you appear real womanly, Edith, but sometimes rather masculine. How do you account for it?"
Edith—"I suppose it is hereditary. Half of my ancestors were males and the other half females."—Judge.

DESIRABLE LOCATION.

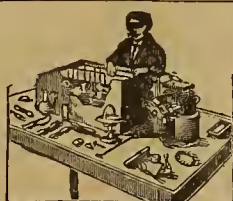
"Did you know that science had discovered microbes in kisses?" said one student to another.
"Humph!" replied another; "that shows that a microbe isn't such a fool as he looks."—Washington Star.

EVIDENCE.

Bingo—"Bobby, did you eat that little pie your mother made for you yesterday?"
Bobby—"No, sir. I gave it to my teacher."
Bingo—"Did she eat it?"
Bobby—"I guess so. There wasn't any school to-day."—Puck.

CONSUMPTION

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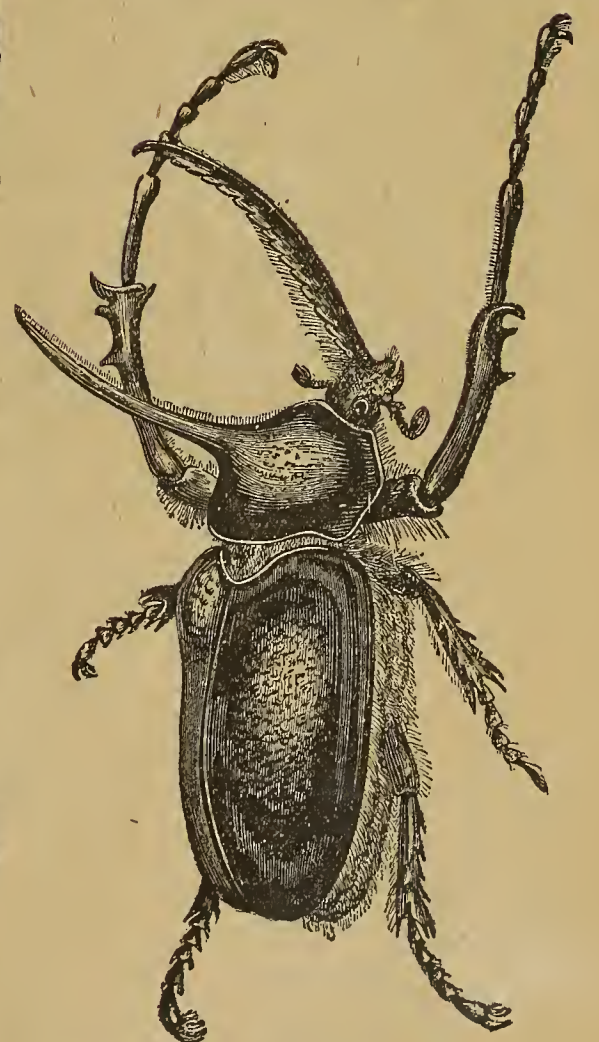
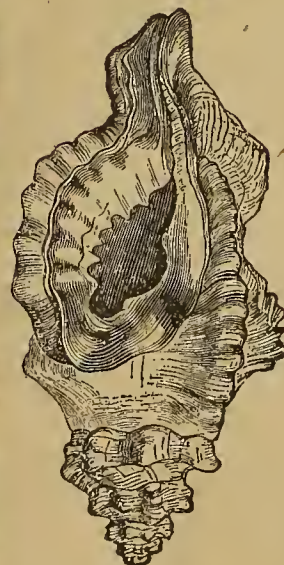
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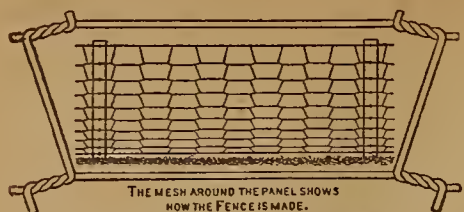
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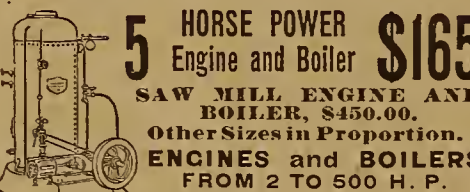
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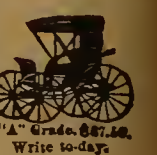
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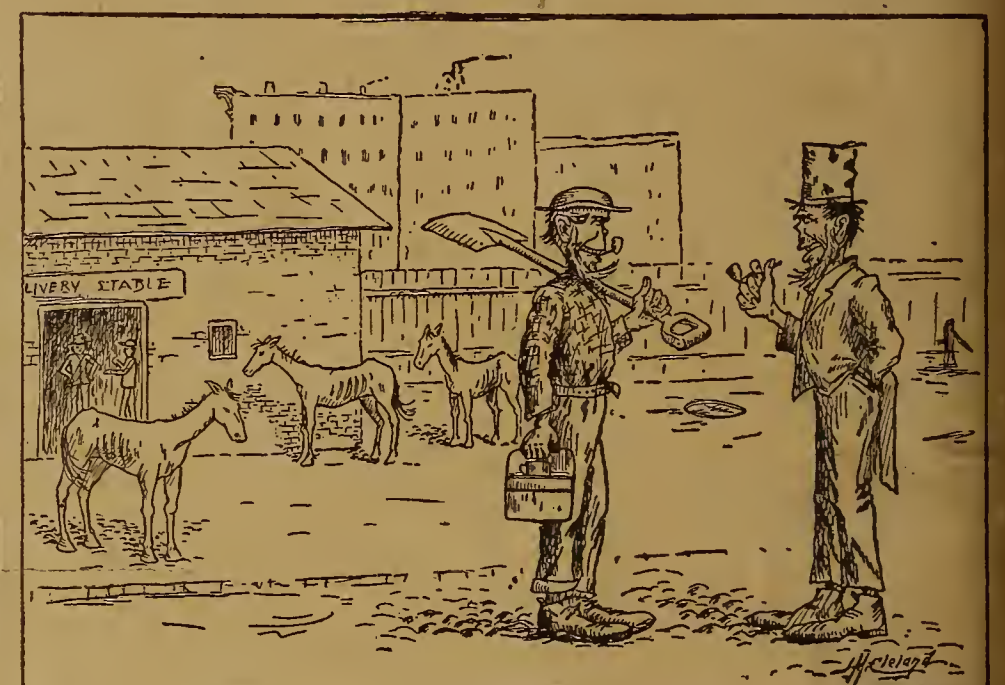
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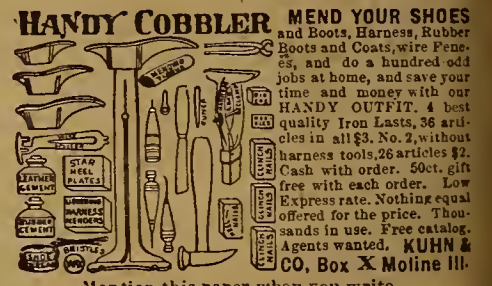
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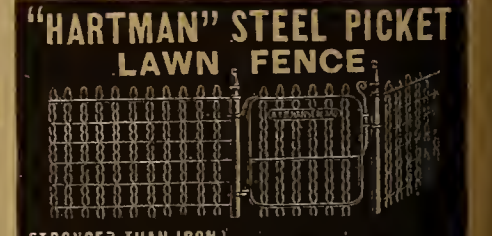
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